

# THE GATEWAY

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## Kelly disqualified from race for President



CHLOÉ FIEDO  
Deputy News Editor

Though the name "Michelle Kelly" still appears on the ballot, the race for the next Students' Union President is down to two candidates as the current Arts councillor and former presidential hopeful was disqualified on the eve of the election.

"I believe that Michelle Kelly exceeded her budget, and under bylaw that's ground for strict disqualification," said Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woyrnowski.

Under the Campus Wide Election Bylaw, or Bylaw 2100, all candidates are given \$500 by the SU to run their campaign, and cannot exceed that, in an effort to create a level playing field for all students running.

Kelly incurred a \$5 fine last week, which still kept her under the \$500 mark; however, a \$10 fine for missing a candidates meeting on Monday bumped her budget over the maximum, to a total of \$506.06. Woyrnowski then announced her disqualification.

On Tuesday, Kelly contested the CRO's ruling, appealing to the Discipline, Interpretation, and Enforcement Board (DIE Board) on the grounds that there was a mistake in her budget. She argued that due to "human error," her budget included a bottle of green paint that was never actually used, even though it was originally bought to decorate campaign posters.

Students' Council Speaker Greg Harlow spoke on behalf of Kelly at the meeting, arguing that missing the meeting was more of a detriment to the candidate than anything else, and that she gained no advantage over the other candidates as a result.

"We're not looking to destroy an individual when a mistake is made," Harlow said. "When looking at proportionality in this particular case, I don't think anyone would disagree that disqualification is the political equivalent of an atom bomb: in an electoral campaign, there can't be any-

thing more severe."

Still, Bylaw 2100 outlines a mandatory \$10 fine for any candidate who misses a meeting, and DIE Board Chair Alex Ragan was not convinced by the proportionality argument.

"It's pretty clear in the bylaw that it doesn't say, '\$500 more or less, if you think it's appropriate.' There's not a lot of play in that number," Ragan said.

Woyrnowski also explained that there's no clause in the bylaw that allows for amendments to a budget, and said this would create a "dangerous precedent" for candidates in the future.

**"...disqualification is the political equivalent of an atom bomb: in an electoral campaign, there can't be anything more severe."**

GREG HARLOW,  
SPEAKER OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL



MATT BRENNER

**TENSE MOMENTS** Michelle Kelly (top) unsuccessfully appealed her disqualification from the campaign for Students' Union President for going over the \$500 budget limit. Bottom, left to right: CRO Rachel Woyrnowski, Council Speaker Greg Harlow and VP (Operations and Finance) candidate Theresa Chapman speak at Tuesday night's DIE Board hearing.

"If a candidate does go over the budget, should they have a chance to say, 'Well, I only put up 250 out of 275 posters,' or, 'I only used three-quarters of a roll of tape?'" Woyrnowski asked.

And though Woyrnowski conceded that this situation was a "little more clear-cut," because it dealt with an entire can of paint that hadn't been opened, the fact that it was included in Kelly's budget, submitted on Monday morning, complicates the issue.

"That leaves me in a situation where I have to err on the side of caution," Woyrnowski said. "I can't verify whether that paint was used or not, and in the absence of any conclusive evidence, I argue that she included it in her budget, therefore it was used."

PLEASE SEE KELLY • PAGE 5

## U of S student paper on defensive after publishing Jesus comic

CHLOÉ FIEDO  
Deputy News Editor

While the Muslim world continues its outcry against the publication of cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad that are considered blasphemous, students at the University of Saskatchewan have started their own protest—this time in the name of Jesus.

The 2 March issue of the *Sheaf*, the weekly campus newspaper at the U of S, published a cartoon depicting Jesus flogging a pig. The cartoon, entitled "Capitalist Piglet," was drawn in two frames: the first shows someone

walking in on the sexual act, while the second features the pig telling Jesus, "Go on, it's OK. It's kosher if you don't swallow."

Brent Trickett, who works for Campus Crusade for Christ and volunteers at the U of S with students who are involved in the organization, thought the cartoon was a cheap shot against Christianity.

"My initial response was disgust," Trickett said. "I really can't see a message in it except that it was just meant to be offensive."

Tim Austin, student president for the Crusade at the U of S, echoed

these statements, saying that criticism should be constructive, not mindless.

"It's one thing to be satirical of Christianity or capitalist practices, but the comic published in the *Sheaf* was not satirical—it's offensive and provoking," he said.

The *Sheaf* is an independent newspaper at the U of S and has a history on campus dating back to 1912.

Martin Olszynski, Chair of the *Sheaf* Publishing Society Board of Directors, explained that a miscommunication between then-Editor-in-Chief William Robbins and the paper's graphics editor led to the publication of "Capitalist

Piglet." On Sunday, Robbins submitted a letter of resignation.

"Mr Robbins is responsible as Editor-in-Chief for the final edit of the paper, and he admitted that he didn't do that diligently," Olszynski said. "We felt that that was sufficiently problematic that we would accept his resignation."

However, Robbins said he felt his resignation wasn't the best interest of the paper and wasn't necessarily an appropriate response to the event.

"I didn't resign voluntarily; I was forced to resign by the rest of the student staff at the *Sheaf*," Robbins said, adding that he hopes the campus can

engage in valuable discussion as a result of this "unfortunate mistake."

U of S President Peter MacKinnon denounced the cartoon in an e-mail addressed to the campus.

"It has divisive shock value only and does nothing to advance the understanding or debate for which universities should be distinguished," he wrote.

"The *Sheaf* should apologize to us all."

U of S Students' Union President Gavin Gardner said he was disappointed in the *Sheaf*'s decision to print the cartoon, which he called "offensive and tasteless."

PLEASE SEE *SHEAF* • PAGE 7

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### A monster of a project

Canadian director Sturla Gunnarsson talks to Adam Gaumont about filming the epic *Beowulf and Grendel*.

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# vote

### Extra! Extra!

Tomorrow, the *Gateway* will be publishing a special SU election results edition. Be sure to check it out.

AROUND CAMPUS, FRIDAY

## THE GATEWAY

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## colophon

The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers, Linux PowerLook 'soft'flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scan optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of **Frutiger**, **Kaplan**, **DejaVu**, and **Arima**. The **Macintosh** is the Gateway's server. The Gateway's games of choice are **Bombberman** and **Super Mario 64**.

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## Day of Silence set to make GLBTQ students heard

Fourth annual event asks participants to keep quiet 'to echo the silence of those who cannot speak out'

**JAKE TROUGHTON**  
Senior News Editor

With the progress that's recently been made in securing rights for Canadian gays and lesbians, it can be easy for the mainstream to forget that homophobia is still an active problem. Tomorrow, the campus group Siderite will try to give a reminder.

Campus will be a little bit quieter from 9am–3pm as Siderite, the GLBTQ (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Queer) support group for U of A residence students, conducts its fourth annual Day of Silence.

"Basically, you keep quiet the whole day to echo the silence of those who cannot speak out about their own sexuality," said Day of Silence coordinator Jeff Lynch. "It's what people who have issues with their own sexuality feel all the time, especially if there's family pressures not to talk about it, or religious reasons, or the environment where they work; even at some of the faculties here it's kind of a pressure not to talk about it."

The Day of Silence originated in the United States and thousands of schools there participate, but to Lynch's knowledge, the U of A is the

only Canadian school to observe the event. He explained that the event largely targets heterosexual students, who also make up a majority of the Day of Silence volunteers.

"It's a chance for people who are heterosexual to try to not speak out about something for the whole day, just to show how tough it is to not speak about something you want to talk about," he said.

"The point is simple: by asking supporters to remain silent for a day, this shows an understanding for the pain many GLBTQs go through in their quest to fit in, how they feel they must remain silent themselves," added Siderite supporter Curt Clark.

Lynch said the event, and the message behind it, remains as relevant as ever this year, despite recent developments such as same-sex couples across Canada securing the right to marry.

"Last semester we put on our Drag Show, and it sold out the PowerPlant—it's the only event that I know of this year that has—but my posters were ripped down all over campus. I wasn't allowed to post in certain buildings because of the 'nature of the show,' and it's sort of like the people who

don't support it, don't support it a lot," said Lynch. "It's still happening. It's not as violent anymore—I haven't heard of any gay-bashing in awhile, which is good—but it's still there, and we have to get people out of the mindset that [homosexuality] is a bad thing, because it's something that we can't help."

**"The whole point of the event is to not have to have it anymore."**

**JEFF LYNCH,**  
DAY OF SILENCE ORGANIZER

As in past years, the event will culminate in a "breaking the silence" ceremony in Quad at 3pm, which will involve several speeches, including a yet-to-be-determined member of the Students' Union Executive, following what Lynch terms "the main event."

"Basically, we just get together and scream at the top of our lungs to break the silence," he said.

Students wishing to participate can visit Siderite's tables today and tomor-

row in SUB, HUB, Education, and Lister Hall, where there will be more information as well as buttons and "speaking cards" with a brief explanation of the event, which participants will be able to hand out on Friday to explain their silence. Those unable to remain silent are also encouraged to show their support by wearing yellow, which is this year's colour theme for the event.

The event has continuously grown in size since its first year, and Lynch is hopeful that the message is getting across.

"The whole point of the event is to not have to have it anymore," said Lynch. "I hope it will happen soon."

## Correction

In the 2 March edition of the Gateway, it was incorrectly reported that Chris Samuel, the candidate to become the Undergraduate Board of Governors Representative in the Students' Union election, was a former SU Vice-President (Operations and Finance). In fact, he was the Vice-President (External). We apologize for the error.

## STREETERS

The Students' Union election started yesterday and continues today, as students vote on five Executive positions, a Board of Governors representative, and two plebiscites.

How did you vote?



**Mitch Seida**  
Science III



**Sean Lee**  
Arts II



**Teresa Morban**  
Business I



**Nadja Hamida**  
Arts I

I voted not on the smoking ban, because I support people's rights and for them to be able to do what they want. As for PAC, I think the government should build our buildings for us. We shouldn't be locked into a fee for 30 years, because I'm not going to be built by the time I'm done school.

I voted yes on PAC. I think it's really important. I just came from Van Vleet, and it's disgusting in there, and I think this is the only way it can be fixed. As for the tobacco ban, I voted no because the campus is a huge portion of the city, and for people who want to smoke to have to leave is quite inconvenient. And although I don't support smoking and the tobacco industry, I think at this point in our lives we can come to a decision on what to do to ourselves.

For President, I voted for Samantha Power, because Michelle Kelly was disqualified. For the complex ... it is disgusting in there. We need another facility. There's not enough room for people who want to work out. As for the tobacco ban, I think it's up to people to make their own choice. I don't smoke personally, but if people want to, it's up to them.

I voted for the smoking ban, because I don't think the University should support smoking on campus. They can do whatever they want outside, but I think the University, as an institution, shouldn't support smoking. I also voted for Damini [Moham] for VP [External], because she supports international students and I'm an international student. And I think that's something that should be supported, since these students are new to Canada and Canadian culture.

Compiled and photographed by Iris Tse and Mike Larocque



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light at the end of the tunnel

# MSA set for Islam Awareness Week

ALEXANDER DEACON  
News Staff

Amid growing unease in the Islamic world spurred by controversial cartoons and tense international relations, the Muslim Students' Association (MSA) is hoping to promote religious and cultural understanding with its upcoming annual Islam Awareness Week (IAW).

This year's theme, "Islam: A Barbaric Religion?" is designed to promote a dialogue between Muslim and non-Muslim students, and features a performance titled "Upon the Ashes of Babylon," at the Myer Horowitz Theatre, which will showcase two internationally acclaimed Islamic artists: Amir Sulaiman, from HBO's *Def Poetry*, and Preacher Mon, a writer for *Saturday Night Live*.

MSA representative Zacharia al-Khatib explained that this year, the MSA is hoping to attract a wider range of participants by offering edgy and entertaining events that it has traditionally shied away from.

"Past MSAs have, generally, brought in a few scholars and a few public speakers who have given lectures on what Islam is and what the point of

Islam is," he said. "And that's good, but I don't think that it's having an effect on the public mind. What [the MSA] really needs to do is to show people what Islam is: show them that Muslims have entertainers, that we have culture, that we have comedians."

Farooq Maseehuddin, also with the MSA, agreed, and pointed out that having internationally recognized entertainers will be a good way for non-Muslim students to become more familiar with Islamic culture.

"We want to show that our culture is unique in some aspects, but that it still shares many commonalities with what a regular University student, who happens to be a non-Muslim, would be familiar with," he said.

The MSA also has hopes that IAW will prompt Muslim students at the University to increase their learning and understanding of Islam, as well as of other religions and cultures on campus. They're hoping the dialogue will encourage a greater level of understanding and acceptance between Muslim and non-Muslim students.

"There are a lot of Muslims who come from other places and other countries who have an 'us-and-

them' mentality when they look at Canadians, or non-Muslims. And to deny this is simply to ignore it, really, because it does exist," said al-Khatib.

Justin Kehoe, the Vice-President (Student Life) of the Students' Union, emphasized the role of IAW in promoting cultural and religious understanding at the University, noting that IAW is a timely event in the wake of the controversial Danish cartoons and the ensuing violence in many parts of the world.

"It's all about just raising awareness and understanding, so you can realize, 'Hey, there are a lot of Muslim students at the U of A, and this is what they're all about, and they're not so different from everyone else who's non-Muslim.' I think that this is a really good thing to have at this point in time, and it can diffuse a few tensions—at least on our campus," said Kehoe.

IAW runs from 13 to 17 March, and will feature several events across campus. Tickets for the 17 March feature performance, "Upon the Ashes of Babylon," are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door, and are available at the IAW booths in SUB and CAB. Detailed information is available at [www.lawweek.ca](http://www.lawweek.ca).



GETTING ISLAM OUT OF TROUBLE Feminist Islamic journalist Irshad Manji spoke on the U of A campus last Friday.

## Manji seeks place for women in Islam

MATT FRIDMAN  
Photo Editor

Islamic issues have been at a permanent boil lately, thanks to events like the publication of now-infamous cartoons of Mohammed and the rise of Hamas to power in Palestine. As a journalist, feminist, lesbian and Muslim, Irshad Manji is in a position to offer a somewhat different perspective on what she feels are the core problems facing Islam today.

Speaking at the University of Alberta last Friday, Manji discussed how she feels the use of *ijtihad*, an ancient Islamic method of critical thinking, is the best tool for feminist Muslims to confront their detractors.

"What do I mean by the trouble with Islam today?" Manji asked. "I don't simply mean human rights abuses. Because, let's face it, abuses happen under the banner of every religion. But, only within Islam today is literalism mainstream worldwide."

Though she said literalism exists in other major religions, pointing specifically to Christian evangelicals who populate the White House today, Manji argued the phenomenon is different among Islamic populations.

"The difference is that only in Islam is literalism so mainstream that even self-described moderates accept as an article of faith the notion that the Qur'an is the final, and therefore supreme, word

of God—not given to inconsistencies, and contradictions, and, Allah forbid, human editing. The Qur'an is final, perfect, and God 3.0, and none shall come after," Manji continued.

Her lecture was loosely based around arguments from her book, *The Trouble With Islam Today*, where she discussed *ijtihad*, a term derived from the same root as the word *jihad*, meaning "to struggle."

"*Ijtihad* is all about struggling with the mind to comprehend the word," Manji said. "In the early centuries of Islam, thanks to the concept of *ijtihad*, 135 schools of interpretation flourished. In one of the most sophisticated cities, there were 70 libraries. That rivals the number of libraries—and, sadly, the number of McDonald's—in most cosmopolitan cities today."

Manji went on to discuss how *ijtihad* scholars would teach their students to be critical of expert interpretations of the Qur'an, and take an informed and open approach to its study.

"What I think is beautiful about emphasizing *ijtihad* is that I'm not asking my fellow Muslims to import a foreign tradition or an alien virtue into the faith," she said. "People like me are reminding other Muslims that *ijtihad* is endemic to Islam. And I would argue that we must have it again, and not just limited to elite circles as it was a thousand years ago, but democratize it so that more people can interpret for

themselves."

To Manji, *ijtihad* is crucial for women who wish to initiate reform from within Islam.

"If there is room for female-friendly interpretations of the Qur'an, then why do we overwhelmingly see interpretations that harm women?" she asked.

"This is where culture comes into play. For example, much of the Islamic world is entrenched in an Arab tribal custom called honour. A couple of years ago, Hamas issued a statement that women would finally be eligible to become suicide bombers. But there's a catch to Hamas' feminism: only one kind of women would be eligible—one guilty of dishonour. By taking her life and that of innocent others with her, she will be lifting the moral stain," Manji continued.

Manji characterized this as a problem that, while not fundamental to Islam, has become entwined with Islam over centuries.

"The reality is the way in which Islam has been promulgated for the last several hundred years: the cultural custom of honour has become enmeshed in the practice of Islam," she said. "Even though this isn't a problem that comes from Islam, this has become a problem for Islam, which is why we have to give Muslim women in particular a theologically legitimate way of effecting cultural reform."

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Campus Bars: a service for students, staff, alumni and guests



**EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** Vice-President (External) candidates Damini Mohan, David Cournoyer, and (opposite page) Blythe Morrow spoke to the Gateway about their plans should they be elected tonight.

## Q&A: VP (External) candidates focus on tuition lobbying

AMANDA ASH  
News Staff

The Vice-President (External) is responsible for the Students' Union's relationship with government and the community at large. Three students are running for the job this year: Damini Mohan, the community liaison for the University Human Rights Initiative; Dave Cournoyer, external researcher for the SU's advocacy department; and Blythe Morrow, Vice-President (Finance and Administration) of the Arts Students' Association.

**1** What would you do to enhance the working relationship between the SU and the provincial government?

**Damini Mohan:** Talking to the Members of Parliament and MLAs; talking to them, not in an aggressive manner, but a nice manner, and let-

ting them know what needs to be done. We have quite a few MLAs who are supporting us, like Raj Panm and Kevin Taft, but there are a lot more out there that we don't have contact with. If we go out and talk to them, we will send out our message that the SU isn't just about campaigns, but we're actually interested in building a coalition with the province and the University so we can work together towards the common goal of an educated Alberta and an educated Canada. Also, getting the media involved. The media is a very important tool, and if we can send a message to them—which can be through campaigns—saying that we need to get more involved with the provincial government, then we can become more involved in the functioning of the government, too.

**David Cournoyer:** When it comes to the Students' Union dealing with the provincial government, I think we

need to be clear and respectful of each other, but we also have to set limits and say that certain things are acceptable to students and to the SU and certain things aren't. When issues come up that are contrary to our political policies, we shouldn't be afraid to stand up and say we disagree with them, and I think we have [done that] over the past couple of years. But, I mean, we should be respectful and everyone should be able to work together.

**Blythe Morrow:** I think that the way the SU speaks to the provincial government is innately flawed, because we don't speak to the government in a language it identifies with. We have to tell the government why it's beneficial to them and to society that we have lower tuition, and accessibility and affordability of education. We have to say that with less student debt, the graduates coming out will be more likely to start families earlier, buy

houses earlier, and invest in the economy earlier. With Alberta's booming economy right now and the shortage of jobs, that's what we need. If we go to the government and speak a language that they'll understand, then maybe we'll get somewhere.

**2** What do you think can be done in the fight against high tuition, aside from lobbying government?

**Mohan:** Raising public awareness. We can lobby the government as much as we can, but if the public isn't aware, nothing is going to get done. We live in a democratic society, and if the public knows more about the students' problems, then students might be more willing to go out and vote. We'd be lobbying the government indirectly. The more [the public] knows about how ridiculously high tuition is getting every year, then the more they will start questioning the government

as to why. Right now, there's only the Students' Union and a couple of other organizations that are doing it, but in general, the public is not aware of it. I would get more media involved and send a message out to the public, making them more aware of us.

**Cournoyer:** Well, hopefully that will be resolved this fall if Ralph Klein comes through with his promise to make Alberta have the most affordable tuition in the country. I'm willing to give him the benefit of the doubt, but I think we have to hold him to that promise. A year ago, that was the highlight of his address to the province. I was at the Speech from the Throne last week, and there were three sentences that had to do with post-secondary education. I mean, three sentences is more than I thought we would get, but the fact is that it's still vague and we still don't know what the tuition policy is going to look like. I think

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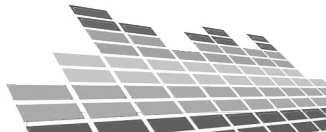
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CLEO FEDIO AND MATT FEINBERG

they just need to be clear with us.

**Morrow:** I think we can absolutely revisit the student loans program, and the government can help us out in that way. So, instead of always saying we've got to lower tuition, we say, "You know what, 25 per cent of students think tuition is high enough and they don't have a problem paying for it, and that this percentage of students do and they can't afford it." Some students can't get student loans because they live with their parents, and some, when they graduate, can't afford to start making payments six months afterwards. Maybe if we revisit the student loan program and make it accessible to everyone—not just low-income students or high-income students, but the middle-income as well—then we can increase accessibility. To lower tuition, we can lobby our alumni as well. We can use our alumni groups for public opinion, and then the MPs and MLAs will listen to their constituents.

### 3 Besides tuition, what else do you see as important issues for the VP (External)?

**Mohan:** Some concerns that are close to me are Campus St'jean and Augustana. Even though they're a part of the U of A, there's a big gap in communication. I'd like to hold more campus tuition campaigns, and when I do, I want to have them at Campus St'jean and Augustana at the same time in order to send a unified voice to the government that says, "We're one University, and even though we are diverse, we're one and the same students and it's about time you started looking towards us." There haven't been any effective campaigns over the last two years, and Campus St'jean got to know about them two days later. That is very pathetic. Also, I'd like to set up an International Students' Advisory Committee, because international students' fees are ridiculously high, three times ours. They can't work off-campus, and on campus, they get paid almost minimum wage. They're not involved in the SU or in the campus community, and they form about ten per cent of our undergraduate students, which is a lot.

**Cournoyer:** I think the issue of student debt is huge, and it's kind of tied in with high tuition. It's unacceptable

in a rich province like Alberta that the average student with debt walks out of the U of A \$20 000 dollars in debt. It isn't acceptable, and Alberta's boasting \$8 billion in surpluses and students are still suffering when it comes to debt. Everybody has a stake in this, and it's going to hurt our chances to compete globally if student debt continues. Looking into forms of student assistance that don't allow students to incur debts, like non-repayable grants, is one solution. I think Alberta has an opportunity with Learning Alberta, when they release their recommendations and the new tuition policy in the fall, to step into the forefront in Canada.

**Morrow:** I think that we have to continue to foster good relationships with other universities. We have a really great relationship with the University of Calgary right now, but with the University of Lethbridge, not so much, and Athabasca is difficult as well because most of [their students] don't live in Alberta. So, we have the outlet, we have the cause, we can use that, but we need to expand that. We need to make sure that our message is a message that all universities across Canada and across Alberta are using, because together we can get things done.

### 4 How do you envision the SU's relationship with the University administration?

**Mohan:** I envision our University being supportive of what the SU is doing, and the SU being very respectful of the administration. The SU and the University are working hand-in-hand towards a common goal, which is students and education. I envision the SU and administration working together, especially with President Indira Samarasekera. She's very supportive of the SU and any other student groups, and I think under her we can build a great relationship with the University. That's really essential to the SU, because if we don't have the approval of University on an issue, then we can't pursue it. Well, we can pursue it, but it doesn't hold much weight if we don't have their approval, so I think it's really important to work together with them and be respectful with each other.

**Cournoyer:** I think our relationship with the University administration is a

lot like the one we have with the province, and it can be dealt with in the same way. I think we obviously need to be respectful of one each other, but we also need to hold them accountable when it comes to tuition and deferred maintenance. A lot of it ties in with the provincial government, because they control the funding to the University, and in a lot of ways, the University is the middleman. However, I think that we do have a lot in common with the University when it comes to lobbying approaches and goals that would benefit undergraduate students.

**Morrow:** The relationship the SU has right now with Samarasekera is fantastic, and [the SU] did a really good job in fostering it, and I think we need to keep that up. It's going really well and I think it will continue, because she's behind undergraduate students. When it comes to the Board of Governors, there are some changes that we can make. Right now, what we do is, the President and the Board of Governors representative will switch: the President will go to one committee and the BoG rep will go to another. But the President and the BoG rep have to be together—they have to be united, they have to be talking and they have to come to the board with the same message. And with that, we have to change the message we're giving. Right now, our message is that we need to lower tuition because we can't afford it. Well, the Board of Governors doesn't recognize it, so there's nothing proactive in saying it. What we need to say is, "You need to stop charging students for increases in tuition and you need to lobby the government."

### 5 Star Trek or Star Wars?

**Mohan:** Star Trek. I like Star Trek.

**Cournoyer:** Totally Star Trek. I like the original Star Trek with Captain Kirk, and William Shatner is just pretty cool.

**Morrow:** Star Trek. They have the best captains in the world: James T. Kirk and Jean-Luc Picard. Have you ever listened to William Shatner's CD? You'll have to do that; it's so fantastic. I play it for all my friends. Also, Star Trek has the best toys, hands down, as well as Christmas ornaments. They come out with a new one every year.

it sort of just devastates you," she said. "You kick yourself about all the little things you should have done differently," Kelly said. "It's hard not to think about them, and I really, really wish I could have known how students would have voted otherwise, how this would have all turned out."

Since the SU uses a preferential voting system, any vote cast for Kelly in Monday's advance polls will be transferred to the voter's next choice on the ballot.

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## Kelly 'kicking herself' over disqualification

KELLY • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

But Theresa Chapman, a candidate for Vice-President (Operations and Finance), argued in favour of Kelly, saying that the CRO was setting double standards for candidates. Chapman, who had a roll of tape stolen, didn't include that expense in her budget under Wojnowski's guidance.

"I believe that the primary job of any CRO is to treat the candidates fairly and to facilitate their equality in the election," Wojnowski said. "Ms

Chapman never raised the issue with me previously and I, personally, don't really see it as being an issue."

In the end, DIFB Board ruled in accordance with the CRO, and though Kelly didn't agree with the verdict, she ultimately accepted the decision.

"There's a point where your nerves stop being able to take the apprehension and the limbo of not completely knowing, and where you've completed so much that even though you're pretty sure they're not going to rule your way,

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## Province puts end to grizzly bear hunt

TRISTAN FOLINSBEE  
News Staff

In a move celebrated by environmental groups across the province, Dave Coult, the Alberta Minister for Sustainable Resource Development (SRD) announced last week that Alberta's controversial grizzly bear hunt would be suspended for three years.

"We are suspending the hunt for the next few years while we're completing [population studies] on the rest of the grizzly bear range," said Dave Ealey, an SRD spokesperson.

The province also released long-awaited population and mortality studies done in 2004 and 2005, as well as a long-term plan to restore grizzly bear numbers.

The population studies released Friday cover the foothills area between Highway One near Camrose and Highway 16 near Hinton, and estimated a population of 100 grizzlies in that area, fewer than had originally been presumed to occupy the region.

These results suggest that Alberta's grizzlies are more threatened than previously thought, said Mark Boyce, a U of A professor of Biological Sciences who worked on the provincial Grizzly Bear Recovery Team (GBRT).

"Everybody's amazed at how low the densities actually are; there are far fewer bears left than were actually expected," said Boyce.

Nigel Douglas, a conservation specialist with the Alberta Wilderness Association, said that the decision to end the hunt was one for which his group had waited a long time.

"My initial response was relief as much as anything else, that finally, after all these years of working towards setting some meaningful measures to protect grizzly bears, we're finally starting to move in the right direction," said Douglas.

The Alberta Fish and Game Association (AFGA), an organization of hunters and anglers, disagreed with the province's decision to suspend all grizzly hunting in Alberta.

Andy Boyd, the AFGA's representative on the GBRT, argued that while the overall population of grizzlies may be down, certain areas have sufficient numbers of bears to support a limited hunt.

"We're somewhat disappointed; we thought that there was justification for continuing the hunt in bear management areas where bear numbers appear to be high enough to allow a hunt. But we're certainly not surprised; it certainly was the consensus of the team to cancel the hunt," said Boyd.

Glen Semenchuk, a spokesperson for the Federation of Alberta Naturalists, who participated in GBRT meetings and is also a hunter, countered by saying that until more accurate grizzly numbers are known, it would be irresponsible to continue hunting even a limited number of bears.

"If we're going to really practice conservation, which I think most hunters and fishermen want to do, then we have to be realistic, and if there aren't enough animals out there, then we should be willing to suspend our activities," said Semenchuk.

Semenchuk also noted that the

suspension of the hunt was only the first of many important steps in the process of sustaining Alberta's grizzly bear populations.

"We're happy with the decision on the hunt, but that's just sort of the symptom. We still have to get to the cause. Ending the hunt won't recover the grizzly bears."

Boyce agreed, and said that habitat protection and limiting access to sensitive areas is the most critical part of the GBRT's plan.

"The hunt is trivial in comparison to having some kind of access management program put into place. By access management, what we mean is gating roads, closing roads, putting some kind of limit on the density of roads that occur in critical grizzly habitat," Boyce said, pointing to the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and the Forestry and Paper Producers Associations, which have both endorsed this type of activity despite the province's lack of support.

"Suspending the hunt is a band-aid for the real issue, which is development on the eastern slopes," said Boyce.

According to figures released on Friday, licensed hunters killed ten grizzlies in 2005, while five bears were killed illegally, two were killed in self-defence, two were killed for research purposes, and SRD staff killed two problem bears. One other grizzly was killed by Aboriginal hunters, who didn't require licences to hunt grizzlies under the old law. However, the new province-wide licensing ban will also apply to Aboriginal hunters.

## CAMPUS BRIEFS

Compiled by Natalie Climenhaga, Scott LiWall and Chloe Fedio

## U OF A MAY GET NEW FACULTY

A new Faculty of Public Health will likely be established at the University of Alberta effective 1 April, with an initial budget estimate of just over \$10 million.

The creation of the departmentalized faculty, which would go under the name of the 'School of Public Health,' is currently pending approval from the U of A Board of Governors. But, as the proposal has drawn strong support thus far, it's unlikely to be turned down.

The new faculty would take over responsibility of the existing Department of Public Health Sciences from the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, as well as the Centre for Health Promotion Studies (CHPS) from the Health Sciences Council.

Capital Health and the Health Sciences Council, along with the current U of A faculties, have already stated their support for the proposed establishment of a School of Public Health.

However, the U of A administration has declined to comment on the proposal, which has been submitted to the Board of Governors for approval by the Office of the Provost and Vice-President (Academic), until after it has been discussed at the Board of Governors meeting on 17 March.

## PAC FINE FINED

A substantial fine was levied against the PAC Fee "Yes" campaign yesterday, after complaints of campaign messages placed on WebCT.

The initial ruling by Chief Returning Officer Rachel Woyonowski Wednesday morning fined the "Yes" campaign \$10 following a complaint involving the use of WebCT to promote the campaign's position on the PAC Fee Plebiscite. The CRO received a screenshot of a WebCT

calendar that contained the message "9:00-11:00 PAC VOTE - VOTE YES!!!!" The student whose account was used to post the message was not identified, but is known to be a varsity athlete.

While the "Yes" campaign claimed that it did not have the access to WebCT to post the announcement, Woyonowski found them to be in violation of the bylaws prohibiting the use of non-university resources and requiring all election materials to be approved by the CRO. The fine was set at \$10, because it was originally thought that the posting had a very limited exposure.

However, a second ruling later in the afternoon revealed that the posting had been seen by far more students than originally thought. Woyonowski placed an additional \$500 fine for every student who was exposed to the posting on WebCT, for a total of \$193. The ruling also demanded that the campaign ensure the posting was removed from WebCT by 9am today, or the campaign will be subject to face additional fines.

## U OF A STUDENT AMONG RECIPIENTS OF NEW LOIS HOLE SCHOLARSHIP

The recent establishment of the Lois Hole Humanities and Social Sciences Scholarship is intended to ensure that the generosity and emphasis on education promoted by the late Honourable Dr. Lois Hole continues in Alberta.

Funded by the provincial government in memory of the former Lieutenant Governor, the annual scholarship of \$5000 recognizes one student from each of Alberta's four participating post-secondary institutions who demonstrates academic merit, leadership and community service.

This year, University of Alberta student Barbara McLean, along with Athabasca University student Roman Sokolowski, University of Calgary student Karen Leung and University of Lethbridge student Jacqueline Quittenbaum, were chosen as the first scholarship recipients.

McLean is currently completing her Bachelor of Arts honours degree in Women's Studies and Political Science. Having won the Roger S. Smith Undergraduate Student Research Award in 2005, McLean has been researching Aboriginal women and sexual assault in Canadian law. After graduating, she plans to continue her academic career by taking graduate studies in Political Science and furthering her research on Aboriginal women's issues.

She is also extremely active in the University community and is president and founder of the Women's Studies Undergraduate Association, co-chair of the "Feminisms" in the Third Wave conference committee, co-founder of Voices for Choices, and a student mentor and liaison at the U of A Women's Centre Collective.

## U OF A INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

Yesterday, women from communities across the world celebrated International Women's Day, recognizing the many achievements of women through the ages.

The U of A also took part in the event, as twelve women's groups on campus came together in a roundtable discussion about the needs of women on campus, focusing on the wide variety of activities and services offered by women-centered groups at the U of A.

This is part of a greater International Women's Week, observed in Canada from 5 to 11 March, whose theme this year is Beyond Laws: The Right to Be Me, encouraging people to consider the diversity of women and putting words into actions in the context of women's rights.

In addition to these celebrations, this also marks Canada's 25th anniversary as a signatory to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which pledged equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities for both women and men.

# Manitoba SU president-elect's criminal record revealed during voting

TESSA VANDERHART  
CUP Central Bureau Chief

WINNIPEG (CUP)—A flurry of media coverage has accompanied Garry Sran's election as University of Manitoba's Students' Union (UMSU) President, but not all of it has been positive after it was revealed that he was convicted of possession of drugs two years ago.

The details of Sran's criminal record became public in a story in the *Winnipeg Sun* on 1 March, the first day of the UMSU election, followed by a story in the *Winnipeg Free Press* on 2 March.

Sran's parole will end on 1 May, the same day he assumes the role of UMSU president.

"I was never associated with any of this; I was just at the wrong place at the wrong time," said Sran.

In August 2003, charges were pressed against Sran on different counts. He was convicted of a single count of possession of drugs under the Controlled Substances Act in May 2004 following a guilty plea, and spent the next four months in prison.

The Winnipeg Police Service confirmed that Sran had also been charged with possession of 1kg of crack cocaine, 1.4kg of cocaine, a sawed-off shotgun and almost \$20 000 cash. Sran was also implicated in a drive-by shooting in August 2003, but charges were dropped when his confession was deemed to have been improperly attained.

Constable Jacqueline Chapup of the Winnipeg Police Service has handled numerous inquiries about the case, from people both against and on his campaign.

She explained that many individuals were confused about the media release circulated among students that described the charges pressed against Sran, especially since he was only

convicted on a single charge of drug possession.

"It's never been an issue before," said Sran. "I knew that it was an issue that could come up, but the way it did was totally shocking to me."

He went on to say that most of what was published in the local articles was "untwisted," and has since contacted both the *Free Press* and the *Sun*, as well as seeking a legal opinion about what was printed.

Sran said that he would prefer not to discuss specific details mentioned in the *Free Press* to avoid spreading further misinformation.

"It was a part of my past; I did pay my debt to society," Sran said, adding that he wanted to give back to the community, particularly through his school involvement.

But rumours of his past legal troubles propagated a flurry of new rumours, Sran said, including one that he was going to kill his campaign opponents, which he dismissed.

"I've never had possession of a gun or held a gun," he said, adding that students should feel welcome to speak with him about anything, even his past.

"It was a hard time in my life," he said. "It's something that happened in the past, but it has never affected me, ever, and it's not going to, so I want students to be clear on that."

Rachel Heinrichs, Sran's campaign manager, said his criminal record is a thing of the past, and even in light of the negative publicity, students elected Sran with 70 per cent of the popular vote during the 1-3 March students elections.

"I think students have shown that they're capable of being skeptical of media information and that they can look at it and extract the truth—because obviously, they overwhelmingly chose Garry to be President," she said.

# Québec student group plans spring strike

DAMON VAN DER LINDE  
The Link

MONTREAL (CUP)—The Québec branch of the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS-Q) is planning a demonstration to commemorate the anniversary of last year's 180 000-strong student strike in Québec and to reaffirm their demand that \$4.9 billion in federal funds be reinvested into education.

"The importance of commemorating the event is not only as a celebration of the achievements of the strike, but also to rekindle some of the demands," said Bianca Mugenyi, Deputy Chair of CFS-Q. "We feel that the fundamental demands of the strike are not yet fulfilled. The fundamental demands are for accessible education."

CFS-Q representatives from institutions across the province met last Wednesday to discuss the logistics of the demonstration.

By the end of the meeting, the tenta-

tive date for the demonstration was set for 30 March.

The original date proposed for the demonstration was 16 March—the date Québec students went on strike one year ago, but it was pushed back this year to allow more time for organization.

"If we have 15 days, we will be ready; if we have a month we will be better prepared," said Concordia Students' Union President Mohammed Shurayr. The next meeting will also determine the nature of the demonstration: where it's going to be held, what events will take place, and its slogan.

"We want this demonstration to be something very visual, very artistic and very theatrical," said Mugenyi. "Something that students can really enjoy."

The platform for the demonstration was the subject of a lengthy debate at the meeting. "Education is a right" was proposed as the original theme.

"I have a problem selling education

as a right," said Aaron Donny-Clark, Vice-President (Community and Government) of the Students' Society of McGill University. "I feel like it separates students and other people. The battle is a societal battle 'contre Charest,' not just for students."

The demands for the demonstration are also being solidified. The list now calls for the maintenance of the tuition freeze on Québec resident tuition fees—the lowest in the country—and also for out-of-province and international students.

Mugenyi said that the demonstration will also oppose the "rocketing ancillary fees" that increase the costs for all students.

CFS-Q is also demanding a decrease in corporate influence on schools.

"We're seeing an increase in corporate involvement in our research and on-campus space, and we feel as if corporate interests conflict directly with the aspirations of public education systems," said Mugenyi.

# Former EiC says running controversial comic was 'mistake,' not double standard

SHEAF • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, Gardner went on to say the newspaper is an integral part of campus life and that the staff dealt with their mistake appropriately.

"The USSU Executive strongly supports the current editorial staff, including William Robbins," he said.

"The reason we support that staff is because we believe that the *Sheaf* is a very strong and historical institution on the University of Saskatchewan campus, and the only way that it's going to be able to maintain its integrity is with a professional staff."

Still, Austin was concerned about the effect the cartoon has had on recent debates between religion and freedom of speech.

"I find it difficult to accept that it was mere oversight or miscommunication, because the *Sheaf* had previously stated how they felt it was irresponsible to

republish the Danish cartoons. Since the 'Piglet' comic seems to have been also created and published purely for shock value, the double standard the *Sheaf* seemed to employ is fairly evident," Austin said.

The *Sheaf* maintains it was a mistake and issued a statement on their website, in addition to an apology in today's issue.

"I want to stress here, we didn't make the editorial decision to run the cartoon, so in some sense it's a moot point. It can't be a double standard and it can't be hypocrisy if we didn't intend to do it," Robbins said. "I'm not going to justify editorially my reason for publishing it because I didn't intend for it to be published."

Furthermore, Olzyski explained that the cartoon was not consistent with the newspaper's commitment to pluralistic ideas.

"Because the staff chose not to publish the Mohammed cartoons the week previous out of concern for that community, we felt that publishing this sort of comic, which was obviously directed towards another religious affiliation, wasn't consistent with that pluralistic objective," Olzyski said.

Gardner said that, despite their error, the staff is making a significant effort to remedy their mistake.

"People can dispute the content all they like, but students are in charge of that content," Gardner said, pointing to opportunities for students to take part in the paper as volunteer writers, to apply for editorial positions or run for the *Sheaf*'s Board of Directors.

"It's up to them to determine what the response is going to be. If people are offended enough to volunteer and write for the paper, I think that's a very appropriate response," Gardner said.



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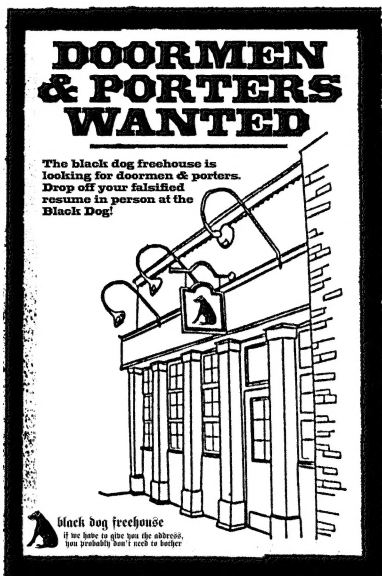
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### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC

Reports to the VP Academic. Assists and reports on various academic issues – coordinating projects related to academic affairs. Represent the VP Academic and serve as the resource person for the AAB, GFCSC and student reps on University committees. This position requires a minimum of 20 hours per week in office time.

**Remuneration: \$1182/month**

*For further information contact the VP Academic at 492-4643*

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 23, after 5:00 pm.

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT EXTERNAL

Reports to the VP External. Assists with organization of on and off-campus events designed to introduce members of the community and prospective students to the Students' Union and the U of A. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

**Remuneration: \$1182/month**

*For further information contact the VP External 492-4643*

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 24, after 5:00 pm.

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT STUDENT LIFE

Reports to the VP Student Life. Assists with the programming, events and the volunteer management components of the Student Life portfolio as well as other duties. Minimum of 20 hours per week in office time required.

**Remuneration: \$51182/month**

*For further information contact the VP Student Life at 492-4643*

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 30, after 5:00 pm.

### SPEAKER OF STUDENTS' COUNCIL

Reports to Students' Council. Chairs all meetings of Students' Council in accordance with Roberts' Rules of Order and the Standing Orders of Students' Council.

**Remuneration: \$140.00/meeting**

Interviews scheduled for date to be yet determined.

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*For further information contact the Steve Kirkham, [steve.kirkham@ualberta.ca](mailto:steve.kirkham@ualberta.ca)*

Interviews scheduled for date to be yet determined

### ECOS (ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION OFFICE OF STUDENTS) DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. The Director of ECOS is responsible for researching, developing and implementing environmental programs for the Students' Union on Campus.

**Remuneration: \$1400/month**

*For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.*

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 23, after 5:00 pm.

### UNIVERSITY POLICY & INFORMATION OFFICER

Reports to the VP Academic. Provides background and information relating to university policy and academic issues

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*For further information contact the VP Academic at 492-4236*

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 23, after 7:00 pm.

**CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW**

### OMBUD SERVICE DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Must possess strong listening skills and be an effective mediator. Must be familiar with University and Students' Union grievance and appeal procedures, and will represent and advise students on such matters.

**Remuneration: \$1420/month**

**Term: This position requires a two-year commitment.**

*For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.*

Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, March 29, after 5:00 pm.

### SAFEWALK DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Work with other units on campus to improve and promote safety. Excellent opportunity to develop volunteer management and administrative skills.

**Remuneration: \$1450/month**

*For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.*

Interviews scheduled for Thursday, March 23, after 7:00 pm.

### STUDENT DISTRESS CENTRE DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. In conjunction with the Distress Line, offers peer counseling, crisis intervention and information/referral services to the campus community. Must have at least one year of comparable peer-counseling experience.

**Remuneration: \$1450/month**

*For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.*

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 24, starting after 7:00 pm.

### STUDENT GROUP SERVICES DIRECTOR\*

Reports to the Manager Student Services. Organize and provide support to a diverse array of student groups as the Director of Student Groups. Provide administration and support to these groups.

**Remuneration: \$1400/month**

*For further information contact the Manager of Student Services at 492-4236.*

Interviews scheduled for Friday, March 24, starting after 5:00 pm.

**\*ALL DIRECTOR'S POSITIONS ARE 30 HOURS PER WEEK**



# Volunteer Opportunities Boards & Committees



**TERMS OF OFFICE:** 1 MAY 2006 TO 30 APRIL 2007 (IN MOST CASES)

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** MONDAY, 13 MARCH, 2006, 5:00 PM NO EXCEPTIONS

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**APPLICATION FORMS:** AVAILABLE AT SU RECEPTION DESK 2-900 SUB, AND SUB, HUB, CAB, ETLIC INFO BOOTHS AND FACULTY ASSOCIATION OFFICES OR ONLINE AT [WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA](http://WWW.SU.UALBERTA.CA).

**Please note use of distinct application for speaker position.**

## Important instructions

- Please submit only single sided documents. We thank everyone who applies, however ONLY shortlisted applicants will be notified.
- Please be available for the noted interview time.
- Applicants must be undergraduate students and have paid full Students' Union fees.
- Positions subject to Council ratification and signing of employment contract.

## STUDENTS' UNION BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

### ACADEMIC RELATIONS GROUP

- Participate in activities raising student awareness of academic issues
  - Assists and advises the Vice-President Academic on academic issues.
  - Participates in workshops & seminars to improve teaching on campus
  - Deals with activities relating to student awareness of academic issues
- For further information contact the VP Academic Mat Johnson at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, after 5:00 pm.

### ADVOCACY ADVISORY BOARD

- Assists in creating advocacy events
- Deals with activities relating to advocacy on the U of A campus relating to provincial, municipal & federal issues affecting students
- Assists and advises the Vice President External in implementing & creating advocacy campaigns

*For further information contact VP External Sam Power at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 6, after @ 7:00 PM.

### PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

- Makes recommendations regarding SU entertainment, planning & Implementation
  - Major events-WOW & Antifreeze
  - Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life
- For further information contact VP Student Life Justin Kehoe at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 6, after 7:00 PM

### STUDENT LIFE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Provides input on non-academic issues on campus
  - Provides input on Student Services Issues
  - Major events WOW & Antifreeze
  - Assists and advises the Vice-President Student Life
- For further information contact VP Student Life Justin Kehoe at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 6, after 5:00 PM

### COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

- Assists and advises the Associate Vice President External
  - Creates activities connecting the Students' Union & U of A students with the greater Edmonton community
- For further information contact the VP External Sam Power at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Thursday, April 6, after 5:00 pm.

### AWARDS COMMITTEE

- Selects annual SU award winners
- Involved in numerous aspects of planning annual awards night
- Can climate, amend & establish annual awards

### REVOLUTIONARY SPEAKERS SERIES

- Assists in selecting the speakers each year for the RSS program
  - Assists in marketing & communication of the speakers & series
- For further information contact the VP External Sam Power at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Friday, April 7, after 7:30 pm.

## STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

### COMMITTEE ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- Requires 1 undergraduate student
  - To recommend policy and serve as the focal point for consideration of policy issues in the University community
- MEETS: At the call of the Chair

### ONECARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Requires 1 undergraduate student to provide valuable feedback and guidance on all aspects of the current and future OneCard operations.
- MEETS: At the call of the Chair  
*For further information on Standing Committees contact the VP Academic Mat Johnson at 492-4236.*  
Interviews scheduled for Wednesday, April 5, after 7:00 pm.

### UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA SENATE

- Requires 4 undergraduate students appointed by the Students' Union
  - The Senate's responsibility is to inquire into any matter that may enhance the image of the University and act as a link between the University and the public. The Senate may also authorize the conferring of Honorary Degrees.
- MEETS: Four times yearly  
*For further information contact the VP External Sam Power at 492-4236*  
Interviews scheduled for Friday, April 7, after 5:00 pm.

# OPINION

opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca • Thursday, 9 March, 2006

## There's no real excuse—get out and vote

I'VE WRITTEN THIS EDITORIAL BEFORE. It essentially goes like this: get out and vote in the SU election because, for one, it can make a difference, and because two, if you don't, you're lazy.

Now, I know that a lot of you may want to argue on point one, saying that the SU is an ineffective body that houses a bunch of empty suits and resumé padders. And, perhaps you'd be right. However, while the SU often doesn't make a difference, that's because sometimes it doesn't get the opportunity to, and because the electorate keeps electing empty suits and resumé padders. And because people are too lazy to run for the positions.

Which, of course, leads to point two, that you're all a bunch of lazy ingrates. Now, even if you don't believe that the SU is ineffective, can't you even take 15 minutes out of your day and get informed on the subject? Is your time so precious that you can't even take enough time to read through some campaign material and get a little bit educated? Hell, you don't even need to vote for anyone. The preferential ballot system allows you to rank "none of the above" top. And doing that is certainly a greater criticism of the system than simply passing by the vote table.

But you won't vote, will you? You'll just blithely pass the ballot boxes on your way to class, excusing your laziness by making some remark about the unimportance of the election and the stupidity of the candidates. And why should you vote anyway? It takes all of your concentration just to speak by marks-wise, especially with your full-time job on the side.

Speaking of that full-time job, isn't it surprising that you need one, considering the fact that the University is housed in the richest province in the country? But you don't question too much; you need to have that job so you can eat, and you don't want to end up like your buddy who's thousands of dollars in debt.

You don't think much about anything these days. Your brain has been turned to mush between all the classes and your work shifts. You just want to get your degree and get the hell out of University.

Of course, one might argue that you wouldn't need that full-time job if tuition were lower, and that your buddy mightn't have needed that emergency surgery to cover his loan. If only there was some sort of magical box that you could put go up into and "elect" some sort of "representative" to fight for you on these and other issues relating to your campus experience. Nah, you're just too busy for something like that.

DANIEL KASZOR  
Editor-in-Chief

## Jesus cartoon bad timing and bad taste

LAST THURSDAY, the student newspaper at the University of Saskatchewan, the *Sheaf*, published a cartoon of Jesus performing fellatio on a pig. The pig comforts a reticent Jesus with the phrase, "Go on, it's OK, it's kosher if you don't swallow."

Following public outcry, their Editor-in-Chief has resigned, the U of S administration has condemned the paper and Christian groups are staging protests aimed at dissolving the *Sheaf*.

I recognize the irony of the *Gateway* questioning another paper's content—after all, we're not the most sensitive folks around. But to rationalize not publishing the Danish cartoons, as the *Sheaf* did, because they serve no purpose and incite hatred, then turn around and draw Jesus engaging in bestiality, betrays a slight double standard.

The beauty of the student press is our ability to be irrelevant and offensive, with little regard for the opinions of others or our future careers. Offending people is a delicate art, though. It takes an appreciation of context, and a touch of common sense. Pasting the boundaries of religious commentary is one thing, but to add something interesting while you're offending everybody.

MATT FREHNER  
Photo Editor

## LETTERS

### Nice work on the campaign feature, Berry

Your feature in the Tuesday, 7 March paper was just excellent (Re: "Fear and Loathing: On the Campaign Trail '06"). I wish you were around when I ran two years ago, because you wrote an article that shows the candidates in a different light, and as real people. Your coverage finally offers a glimpse into the furious pace of the executive election, and intimates the hard work candidates put in. It was well written and incredibly focused and I just wanted you to know that I really enjoyed reading it. I would like to commend you because this is the first time I have seen election coverage like it.

I'd also like to point out that Mike's comment (pg 30, "Is she just really cheap?") in the annual poster slam regarding presidential candidate Michelle Kelly's website is rather ironic now that she is fighting DIE board to overturn her disqualification for going over budget. Tee hee. But I digress. Mike's comment is also completely naïve, and I was wondering if you could explain to him the nature of a campaign budget and maybe he can reconsider his idiotic comment. The poster slam is famous on campus (okay with election hacks and nerds like me who look forward to it), but it seems that this time the contributors forgot, or perhaps didn't understand, the logistics of creating a campaign in short time and with a limited budget. All in all I enjoyed the article, but it smacks of ignorance when ridiculous comments like that are made. Oh, and it would have helped if the poster was actually featured next to the review of it so the reader had a reference.

Awesome job on the election coverage overall this year, I'm impressed with your work. Oh, and I can't resist—there's a grammatical error in the second to last sentence of The Fear and Loathing article—it

should read "than" not "just. Just to show you that I'm not just some raving Dave Berry sycophant."

HEATHER WALLACE  
Political Science IV

### Most insults have inappropriate origins, Derk—gay's no different

I was reading the *Gateway* on Tuesday (7 March), and felt compelled to write in response to Kimberlee Derk's article, "Don't use the phrase 'That's gay.'"

Although I don't use this word derogatorily myself, and I completely understand your frustration towards the misuse of the word "gay," I'd like to point out that the majority of the terms used to put someone or something down have derogatory origins. Even a term such as "cutthroat" (what a horrible example) is specifically referring to feminine hygiene products, isn't it? And this is derogatory to all of us unfortunate females who have to bleed. Lucky for you, Ms Derk, that you're a super-woman, since this term isn't offensive to you.

It's true that the misuse of the word "gay" is a more recent development in the English language, yet it comes behind many others. Forgive me for not giving examples—for those of you who can't think of some yourselves, look up stupid, for starters.

So to you, Ms Derk, I say this misuse of words such as "gay" spring from fear and ignorance. People who are that ignorant should be written off until they're committing hate crimes, because their ignorance doesn't deserve the time and energy required to be offended, and to correct them. Likewise, I'm not actually offended by the word "cutthroat." Choosing to be offended lowers one to the level of those misusing the word in the first place.

JOZEL CAMPBELL-JEMIRE  
Arts IV

### Federal government involved in education, Prusakowski

I am writing in regards to an opinion piece of one Mr. Ross Prusakowski (Re: "Pre-election analysis—the candidates stink," 7 March).

Recently, while evaluating the different candidates running for President, Mr. Prusakowski showcased his sophisticated, nuanced, Social 10 knowledge of intergovernmental affairs when he criticized a presidential candidate's belief that joining federal student lobbying organizations like the "Canadian Association [sic] of Student Associations is a good idea" because these groups are "extremely ineffective because, under the Constitution, education is a provincial responsibility."

Mr. Prusakowski is clearly correct on this front. One need only look at the Canada Student Loan Program, the Millennium Scholarship Foundation, federal education tax credits, Canada Access Grants, the creation of the Dedicated Education Transfer (established policy of the current federal government), \$425 million annually for indirect costs of research, the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the Natural Sciences Engineering Research Council, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Canada Research Chairs, the Trudeau Foundation and the recent Council of the Federation Summit on PostSecondary Education and Skills to realize that Ross is right and the federal government and pan-Canadian institutions have zero to do with postsecondary education in this country.

Clearly the lack of federal jurisdiction on postsecondary education is the reason that university and college administrators, like the University of Alberta's, have failed to become members of a pan-Canadian lobby organization for themselves. I'm sure that

if there existed an Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) that was actively lobbying the federal government on these issues, Ross would start to believe it was prudent for students to have their say in those same dialogues with the government rather than have them be dictated by University administrators. But no, this fantasy world doesn't exist and Ross Prusakowski has an accurate view of intergovernmental affairs, and issues like health and postsecondary education will never cross provincial boundaries.

You know, I'm always amazed that the provincial and federal governments have ministers of intergovernmental affairs. Why don't they call them ministers of immigration and agricultural affairs since those are the only responsibilities in the Constitution jointly shared by the provincial and federal governments? Honestly, given the restrictions that the Constitution applies to division of responsibilities, once Ed Stelmach has decided how many immigrants will be allowed to settle in Alberta this year and has called Doug Homer to see how things are going on the agricultural front, what will he do all day?

So to teachers and Ross Prusakowski beg to know the answer.

SPENCER BRYDE KINGS  
Past President  
UBC Alma Mater Society

### Bears volleyball deserved more respect than they were given

After reading the article entitled, "Bears Volleyball go out as a team," published in the *Gateway* on Tuesday, 7 March, many thoughts came to mind, the most prominent of which was, "Who is Ross Prusakowski, and where did he get the set of balls to write such an article?"

PLEASE SEE LETTERS • PAGE 14

## Some personal correspondence for Peter McKay, our new Foreign Affairs Minister



SCOTT  
LIJWALL

Don't read this article. Please. It's not addressed to you. This is for our newest Foreign Affairs Minister, Peter McKay. I need to talk to him, and it's pretty important. But stamps are expensive, and I've never really gotten a handle on dialing long distance, what with the area codes and all that. So, this just seems to be the most efficient way of getting McKay's attention. So, please, if you are not the Foreign Affairs Minister, or if you don't, at the very least, plan to hand-deliver this article to him, skip to the next story on the page. The one about someone not being able to get a date, or on how awesome/horrible smoking is. That'll be fun.

Okay, Peter, I think we've gotten rid of the riffraff. Now, I'm sure you're a busy fellow. So, I guess you can be forgiven for following a simple fact—the Conservatives won the election. It's true, I saw it on the CBC! Now that we've gotten that out of the way, I hope that you'll take the time to stop acting like you guys are the Opposition. I know it's a difficult transition to make, since to King of the Hill from First Place Loser. It's been a little while since Canadians have really cared much about what the Conservatives are doing, and now

"...you recently told the nation that the mission of Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan wasn't 'open to debate.' That was a bit more polite than a great big, 'Piss off,' to the people, but not the most elegant way to deal with a growing majority of citizens unsure about the more aggressive role proposed for our forces."

you guys are the main attraction. So, you've got to be careful. As the Opposition, all you had to do was to shut your eyes and open your mouth. And you did your job well. However, as the party in charge, you have to listen to the Canadian people. Or at least take a page from Martin's book and do that eyebrow thing he was always doing. You know the one, where it made him look like he actually gave a shit about what the people wanted. So try that: fake it.

For example, let's look at when you recently told the nation that the mission of Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan wasn't "open to debate." That was a bit more polite than a great big, "Piss off," to the people, but not the most elegant way to deal with a growing majority of citizens unsure about the more aggressive role proposed for our forces. Breaking out those old, "We need to support our troops," and, "Morale will suffer," excuses to put an end to any calls for a full debate isn't going to cut it either, Peter.

Sure, we do need to "support our Canadian troops in Afghanistan." You are correct. But what you fail to realize is that there are many ways to back those fighting abroad. We could do

it your way, Peter, and support them by protecting them from the big, bad questions. I'm sure that peacekeeping and being trained to withstand torture haven't in any way prepared our soldiers for the abject horror of a full parliamentary debate on our future role in Afghanistan.

Or, just for kicks, we could try a different way of supporting the Canadians Forces. We could try making sure that when we ask someone to go out to one of the most violent areas of the world, when we ask them to get shot at for a living, we do our best to make sure that the sacrifice is worth it.

I do think that the reconstruction and peacekeeping efforts in the region are worthwhile. And I'm not saying that the new, more aggressive plans are the wrong way to go. The only thing I'm saying is that full, open, honest debate is the only way to be certain that we are actually supporting the soldiers, and not just paying lip service to the idea.

Or, hey, we can continue doing it your way, and just be a nation of cheerleaders. Put on the pom-poms and scream "GO TEAM!" until all our questions go away. That sounds good, too. Rah rah rah.

## It doesn't have to be PAC, but we need new facilities



ADAM  
GAUMONT

By the time you read this, you may well have voted on the Recreation Action Committee's proposal to fund a new Physical Activity Centre with more of your parents' money. Mind you, considering the fact that more people typically read the Gateway than vote in RS elections, it's just as likely that you haven't. But that's all one, because I'm not going to come down on either side of this debate; rather, it is my singular conviction that this proposed new addition to the University's infrastructure should not be debated at all.

For, you see, fancy new recreational centres are all well and good, and supplementing the current facilities, as pro-PAC advocates have pointed out, is certainly needed. But that's just the problem here: the current facilities. They're old; they're expensive; they're falling apart.

plugged toilets threaten to surge over onto undraining floors. The showers that do work, and which aren't cordoned off with construction barricades, are more like laser beams than streams of water, threatening to separate man from sack at any moment lest he drop his guard.

Once you somehow manage to wade out of that insufferably humid man-jungle with most of your person unsold, you decide to "hit the gym" for a while.

**But that's just the problem here: the current facilities. They're old; they're expensive; they're falling apart.**

Walking into this cramped, warehouse-like cavern of old stains and even older smells, you attempt to gain access to a machine of some sort—any machine will do—only to realize that about six other people have the same idea. This is because the workout gym is about six times smaller than it ought to be. But never mind that: you can just stick with the rusty old barbells and creaking cable machines for now.

Afterwards, you decide to hit the courts for a little squash action with your friend—we'll call him "Steve." Actually, come to think of it, "Steve" doesn't even come up again in this article. No matter: of the ten variously designed cubicles that comprise the miscellaneous shit-mix of courts that are available for the frantic walling of rubber and ejaculatory cursing that, as any true player can attest, invariably arises, approximately ten of these are

total crap-jobs. The dungeon courts, as I call them, offer creaky floorboards, no windows, and battered concrete walls, while the "nice" courts have more dead spots in the end-walls than a Croatian minefield, and the back wall threatens to topple over with the next bone-crunching, self-rebounding maneuver. Presumably, the racquetball courts aren't much better, but as a squash player, you aren't about to stop to chat that level.

As random pedestrians incessantly slop through this "indoor shoe" area, you decide to take a quick bathroom break, only to find that the men's urinals in the Phys Ed students' lounge are in a constant state of flushing, barrelling through gallons and gallons of fresh water every minute of every day. Undaunted, and newly relieved, you decide you'd better get changed again to make it to the Bear's game on time. Sitting in the cramped, bench-style bleachers with 2000 of your closest drunken frat-boy friends, you watch as fully grown men skate around on an oversized curling rink in Clare Drake arena, tripping over each other as they attempt to cram into their respective hilariously small benches—one of which is a converted penalty box—on opposite sides of the ice.

After the game, you leave the confines of the arena for the inviting, thermostat-regulated climes of ETLC in order to do some last-minute cramming for your midterm. As you sit outside the corporate-sponsored lecture theatres, it occurs to you: that's the way we could pay for the new athletic facilities that we so desperately need! We could have the Nike Athletics Centre, the Coca-Cola Arena, the Molson Aquatic Centre. Finally at peace with your earlier dilemma, you then drift off into a deep, restful, soul-sucking sleep...

"I still cannot fathom how someone looks at another person and does not see a reflection of themselves, does not see another human being. People can be taught hate, but they can also be taught to love, and together we can all give our world a more human face."

—Juliet Karugabe, University of Toronto, Canada/Rwanda, UNH 2001



A STUDENTS' LEADERSHIP MISSION TO POLAND

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For a complete program description, please visit our web site:  
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## Feeling lost? Good—go explore campus

Students don't know campus, and are missing their university experience



LEAH  
ANDERSON

I've been here at the University of Alberta for almost four years, and I just wanted to take a minute to pass on a bit of advice to you all. Why don't you just get lost?

I suppose I should say, "Go explore," but that isn't as attention-grabbing an opening. If I'd said that, you would probably have laughed a bit at my picture, ignored my article and then moved on to the next page with a headline like, "Dirty sex: sextest things to do with dirt sex." At least that's what I generally do. And this article is important—practically a public service!

I can only boast of having met a small percentage of the entire campus population, but almost every one of you I have met seems to know more about philosophical dilemmas than you do about the buildings that comprise our campus. If I arrange to meet a group and say, "Let's meet in the Education Lobby," I get blank stares. If or a poster says there will be pancakes in the FAB Lounge, hungry students mill about, whining that there were no directions.

Well, let's be honest—it's nobody's fault but your own that you don't

know where anything is.

In my first year, I had large gaps of time between classes, since I hadn't yet learned how to cram all my lectures into a three-hour day yet. So, when I had one of those two-hour breaks, I picked a direction and started walking. I went into buildings, up stairs, looked at classrooms, explored non-Rutherford libraries (the one that exists—the rumours are true), found cool rooms, awesome people and can now boast that I have been in every building on campus at some point or another. I'd get lost, find where I was and wander back to the safety of the Humanities Centre, wiser for the experience.

...if a poster says there  
will be pancakes in the  
FAB Lounge, hungry  
students mill about,  
whining that there  
were no directions.

The practical advantages of my forays across campus included finding shortcuts that helped me get from V-Wing to Telus in ten minutes, or a path from BioSci to Corbett Hall with minimal exposure to the elements. I can also keep up on topical events like the AgFor/Engineers battle due to the pedways to the GSB that link their opposing faculties together. I know I'm never more than ten minutes away

from a computer lab, wherever I am. I've even found some really undervalued study nooks through my travels.

Beyond that, I've found, through my appeals to passing students for help getting back to the Arts part of campus, that there are a lot of really great people at this school. And at some point, while walking through random buildings, I found a connection with this school and this campus that seems lacking in so many of my fellow students.

Here's my advice, garnered from so many years and tempered by my amazings and modesty: Start small, but start exploring this University world. If you have a class in Tory, which many of you do, take a ride up a few floors and look around. Yeah, you might find nothing but offices and hallways, but you also might run into your future spouse, or at least someone who will be impressed with your knowledge of dirty sex and things to do with sex dirt.

There are 192 buildings on campus, and while some are merely parking structures and dorm rooms, there's a wealth of architecture, history and new experiences all around you. And since we do like logical reasons to do crazy things, maybe tell yourself that the guy/girl of your dreams is waiting for you, right now, in the Tory Brezeway. Now go find it. After reading this article, if you don't go explore a bit, the next time I tell you to get lost, it won't be a witty opening.

## My car was broken into, and I'm not happy



SCOTT  
BOURGOIS

the wondrous anti-theft system my car possesses, he could never have started the ignition without the computer chip embedded in my key. But, seriously, he gave up before even getting that far, and that shows a lack of commitment.

My car having so thoroughly thwarted the thief, he turned his attention to stealing objects of value, instead. He started with my loose change—a whole handful, worth maybe \$10—and then moved on to my sunglasses. He quickly discovered that those were the only things of value in my car, and, pleased with a job well done, fled to the safety of his criminal hideout. I know this because no other car within a block radius had as much a scratch on it.

Now, I'm not entirely certain what I'm most angry about: the fact that my car was broken into, or the fact that it was done in such a half-assed way. Seriously, if you're going to inconvenience me by wrecking my car, the least you can do is actually steal the

damn thing.

Moreover, I'm pretty pissed off that my sunglasses were stolen. I've got blue eyes, and the sun is bright. I can't see on a sunny day without sunglasses ... and they were nice sunglasses. I bought them only a few months ago, after my previous pair fell apart. They were new damn it! New!

In all seriousness, though, the failed attempt to steal my car left me without an easy means of getting to, say, the University. Or to work. And I'm now dependent on both my girlfriend and the bus to get me anywhere. And I think we all know what my feelings about the St Albert Transit system

The point is this, my friends: the freedom that I worked and paid for has been taken from me by someone with the intelligence and criminal instincts of a feces-throwing chimpanzee. I certainly hope some form of karmic justice cripples my thieving friend. Preferably in the form of a 1995 Cadillac Supreme, running him down as he crosses the road.

could no longer keep him alive. These aren't good kids, and they didn't make some terrible mistake. If you beat someone to death, you know what you're doing.

So this sack beating won't actually be a beating at all; the police, the Crown and all those involved in the joke of a charge these boys have gotten off with will be mercifully pardoned from the sack. I, for one, think beatings are a serious matter.

MIKE LAROCQUE

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.

THE BURLAP  
SACK

This past Saturday, a now infamous crime was committed on an ETS bus where a 35-year-old man was beaten to death by a group of four teenagers.

Predictably, a gathering of family and friends came to celebrate the decency of the accused, an outrageous insult to the victim's family second to only one thing: the boys were only charged with manslaughter.

This isn't a case of a fight that ended up badly, or a negligent car accident. Four boys kicked, punched and beat another human being until his body





CONAL PIERCE

## Do not pass go—do not collect my \$200

Because FS screwed up, I now owe \$200—they should fix their own mistakes



PAUL OWEN

It often startles me how similar the University experience can be to a game of Monopoly. If you're not quick to start, you end up having to be the thimble, which is kind of like having to take biochemistry as a science option because all the good courses were full. Then when you start playing, it's as hard to find un-owned real estate as it is to find unoccupied study space during finals week. Meanwhile, the rich players buy up all the prime spots and put up big buildings, then charge you outrageous sums of money to use them. In fact, with the exception of "Free Parking," it's almost a perfect match. I know, because I had my own Monopoly moment this week, when I landed on Community Chest and was awarded one of those "Bank Error in your favour" cards.

You see, apparently, when granting me a refund this semester, Financial Services did it twice. How they actually did it twice is all sort of a mystery, but, in my future dealings with them, it became fairly evident that human error played a rather large role. I'm not trying to say that the people who work at Financial Services are stupid. Then again, I'm not not saying it.

My experiences with Financial Services—or the dreaded FS, as I will be referring to them for the rest of the article, mainly because I'm too lazy to type "Financial Services" all the time—started off on the wrong foot, because they woke me up to explain to me that I owe them \$200 or so. Now, I think we can all agree that this isn't a very pleasant way to be awakened and, even though it's a little ludicrous to expect other people to operate on

the same 1pm to 1am schedule that I do, it was adequate reason to be more than a little cranky on the phone.

The worst of it wasn't even that they called me while I was asleep. I heard the phone. I let it ring, the answering machine kicked in. I made a conscious effort to deal with their call at a later time when I wasn't dreaming about Jennifer Garner's Oscar dress. They refused to leave me a message. Instead, they hung up and immediately called back. Now I was a little worried.

**I'm not trying to say that the people who work at Financial Services are stupid. Then again, I'm not not saying it.**

Maybe it was my out-of-town parents calling to tell me that their plane home crash-landed in Utah and they were forced to eat my mother's leg to live. Maybe it was my girlfriend calling to let me know her test results were negative. Nope. Just, "Good morning, Mr Owen. You owe us money."

The next miscommunication with me, courtesy of FS, came when the lady on the other end of the phone—let's call her Naseus, after the Greek goddess of facking with people's money—told me what had happened, and that they had refunded my account double what they should have. My account. This seems consistent with the refund I got in the fall term as well, when the credit was placed towards my winter tuition. Of course, what had actually happened was that the credit was given to the credit card, creating further confusion.

So now, because FS fucked up, I'm on the hook for a wad of cash, and my account is being treated like I didn't pay all my tuition. Moreover,

I'm now the one responsible for fixing their mistake. FS needs a better system. I would have been perfectly happy having a credit on my account for my next semester of school, and if this was done on my account, instead of the credit card, then they would have access to it to fix their own mistakes, rather than making me look like a delinquent payer. And for those who won't be returning for another semester, or who need to refund now, they could have one of those big grey java buttons that say, "If you want a refund now, click HERE!" That's computer programming 101, right there.

Moreover, FS needs to take responsibility for their mistakes. If I fuck up a customer's account at my job, I fix it. I don't tell the customer that they now owe us money, nor do I tell them that they owe us money because I screwed up. However, because of the poor refund system FS has in place, they're unable to fix their own mistakes, and now have no other option but to either take the hit or get me, the customer, to pay it back. I've been told that if they don't receive payment by the end of the week, I'm getting a statement in the mail, despite the fact that my tuition was paid, on time and in full, at the end of January.

Finally, Naseus needs to be more adept at her job. First, she should have left me a message when I didn't pick up the phone. Second, she shouldn't have told me that I owe them money, but instead explained the entire situation to me. Third, she should have told me that the credit was placed directly on my credit card, not onto my account, and fourth, she should have accepted full responsibility for the mix-up instead of trying to place it on my shoulders.

Until FS makes these important changes, they're just going to be the player who calls dibs on being the banker, then sneaks \$500 bills when no one is looking.

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# Your trash reflects badly on your university



JOHN  
KMECH

Oscar was the man. Not the little gold man that they gave out Sunday night, mind you, but a different type of Oscar. I'm talking about Oscar the Grouch. You know, the one who lived in a garbage can and ate detritus for a living. Easily one of *Sesame Street*'s best, and most-loved characters, Oscar taught us all valuable, life-affirming lessons about responsible junk disposal when we were all only waiiigh. However, it seems like the daily residents of Cameron Library weren't big fans of *Sesame Street* during their formative years: the science library is filthy.

During midterm season, I spent a good portion of my free time studying in a cubicle in Cameron. I didn't originally see an issue with garbage, because I stayed on the fourth floor, where the problem doesn't seem to be so bad. There's always the occasional loose paper or Tim Hortons cup left around, but, in general, it's kept fairly clean. For some reason, though, the garbage problem is compounded as you move down the floors.

The second and, occasionally, third floors of Cameron, by 9:30 at night, are almost always filled with trash. The tables on floor two are strewn with lunch-forgone. Burger King bags, Styrofoam containers and swrappers are just left lying around, usually open, so that passersby can see the remnants of someone's food. Aside from wrappers and packages, I've also seen half-eaten pieces of pizza, open



**OSCAR WOULD BE PROUD** According to John Kmech, all of the trash around campus is making him a grouch.

yogurt containers, cans of pop and even entire bagged lunches left on the table, among piles of papers.

The floor is never better, and there have been times when I've actually had to watch where I stepped when walking among the tables to avoid crushing the remains of someone's cookies into the carpet. The worst part of all of this is that every single table is within five metres of a garbage can. Even though some of the garbage cans have been known to overflow, there are still plenty of empty ones—yet plenty of refuse always left on the tables.

I find it unfortunate when people treat our university campus like this. I remember at the beginning of the year when I went through Orientation and heard all the excited cheers from

competing faculties, each claiming to have more school spirit than the others. But school spirit starts with little things like this. This pertains to any building that has a garbage problem. Along with showing a lack of pride in the U of A, throwing garbage everywhere reflects poorly on the entire student body and shows that some of us really don't care how outsiders see the campus. I know that if I were touring the University and walked through that mess, I'd get a very different opinion of the students, and the University as a whole, than I should. The University really is a great place and it should look and be treated as such.

One of the oldest excuses for this is, "That's why we pay janitors; to clean up garbage!" This doesn't give you a right to throw your trash everywhere.

Because we pay people to clean up our buildings doesn't mean that we shouldn't make an effort to keep them clean ourselves.

Now, I'm not perfect. I'll admit, as I'm sure many of you reading this article will, to not putting my garbage in the proper bin at one time or another. That doesn't mean we can't start now. I'm issuing an easy challenge to all of you on campus: when you leave any area, clean up your mess, then pick up two extra pieces of garbage near you that aren't yours. If all 30 000 of us did this once a day, our University would be much neater, and Cameron's study floors would be a lot easier on the eyes. Hell, a green puppet may even pop out of the garbage can to thank you for the delicious meal.



Student  
Distress  
Centre

LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

The 2005/06 Golden Bears Volleyball team may not have come home with a gold medal this past weekend at the CIS National Championships, but does that give anyone the right to go and label them as "doppelgangers"? I hardly think so.

It's such a cliché to watch a sporting event, and then sit back to comment from the peanut gallery. And that's exactly what Mr Pruszkowski has done. To make a comment like, "A girl's high school team could have beaten those teams," (referring to the Bears quarter-final and semi-final opponents) is nothing short of arrogant and disrespectful. I was embarrassed to read such a comment coming from someone attending the same university as me.

To say that our game plan that afternoon was, "To show up and look like you're expecting TWU to just roll over and let you waltz to back-to-back titles," is yet another obvious statement proving just how imprudent onlookers can be. Do you really think that Terry Danyluk (the Bears' head coach), a three-time recipient of the CIS coach of the year award, would really just "waltz" into a national final with a game plan such as that?

You find me a coach that has dominated amateur sport like Terry has over the past decade. Find me a coach that has 185 wins and 51 losses in regular season play, and a record of 40-21 in playoffs, not to mention an exhibition record filled with wins against top ranked NCAA division one schools. Now, I'm no math major, but according to me, that is an overall record of 225-72 in conference and playoff matches, which is no small feat considering the level of competition the Bears have faced across the CIS volleyball world.

To take stabs at players such as Alexandre Gaumont-Casas (last season's rookie of the year), Justin Wong (this season's Canada West libero of the year) and Dallas Soorias (a member of our national men's team) is downright offensive, especially coming from a member of our institution. These guys are members of your team. The team you should be cheering for, in the times they are up (which they have delivered time and time again) and in the times that they are down.

BLAKE HENWOOD  
Phys Ed & Education IV

## You owe the McCartneys an apology, Lilwall

Mr Lilwall, I'm writing in response to your recent article in the Gateway concerning Sir Paul McCartney speaking out about the slaughtering of innocent newborn baby seals for their skins (Re: "McCartneys don't have a clue about seal hunt," 7 March).

I'm upset by the nasty way you wrote the article. Who do you think you are to be so vicious? Sir Paul and Lady Heather have well earned their right to speak out, and I think you owe them an apology for the mean spirit of your writing. The practice of killing seals is wrong. It's a money game and that's all it is. They are well informed, and they did many hours of research on the subject.

The practice of dubbing newborn baby seals to death is barbaric and not necessary in the modern world. It definitely leaves a stain on the character of the Canadian people.

DEBRA LYNN KOMORI  
Birmingham Farms, Michigan, USA

## McCartneys spoke deliberately, Lilwall

The McCartneys are well aware of what they are doing (Re: "McCartneys don't have a clue about seal hunt," 7 March). Sir Paul has been part of our culture, our media and the animal rights movement for quite some time. He's not an innocent in the high-profile media circus, but he is a long-time skilled performer, astute business manager and songwriter/performer.

As for facts, we all know what this "hunt" is. It's not a few traditional hunters gaining a subsistence living, but a multi-million dollar industry—for fashion profits! For anybody with compassion for our environment and animals, this "hunt" is an atrocity. Clubbing baby seals with no defence isn't a "hunt."

If there really were a seal management scheme, the mature stock would be taken humanely, not the newborn! It's not the seal's enough food, it's the mismanagement of the fishing industry that's to blame, not the seals. People are over-fishing the oceans, and seals are victims of human greed.

VIVIANE ORTEGA  
Heldberg Heights, Australia

## Lettner lacking in respect, foresight

My initial response to Mr Lettner's recent and largely inappropriate comments regarding the Travel Cuts settlement was shock; how could a member of the SU Executive, someone who has seen the case and knows full well how long negotiations have been in place, be as foolish as to make such statements

when a settlement had finally been agreed upon?

The answer, quite obviously, is a lack of respect not only for the countless hours that U of A SU Councils and Executives have, in the past, put into the negotiation process, but also a gross disrespect towards all other universities involved in the lawsuit, and all students at said universities. That a person as educated as Mr Lettner could simply "slip up" with a few comments is absurd. His comments were intentional, which speaks to his character in more ways than I care to name.

Unfortunately, the, "I'm sorry, I didn't mean that, let's be friends again," routine is barely tolerable when used in defence of our esteemed Premier, let alone for someone involved in a lawsuit that is drawing to a close. As president of a plaintiff in the Travel Cuts case, his rash comments may have instantly nullified the settlement and with it any and all hope of ever reaching an agreement on the issue. He will need to do a lot more than merely apologize to heal these fresh wounds on such old scars.

ANGELA THOMAS  
Engineering Alumni, Japan

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to [opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libelous or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.

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# Canadian director tackles epic project with Beowulf

## Preview: *Beowulf and Grendel*

Directed by Sturla Gunnarsson  
Starring Gerard Butler, Stellan Skarsgård, Sarah Polley and Iqbal E. Sigurdsson  
Opens Friday, 10 March

ADAM GAUMONT  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Canadian director Sturla Gunnarsson grew up in Vancouver and has shot films all over the world, but as his name suggests, he was born in Iceland, and it was to this rustic setting that he was drawn to film his latest work, *Beowulf and Grendel*.

For Gunnarsson, there was really no second choice about filming the story—an adaptation of the epic poem of the hero Beowulf battling the mythical villain Grendel—in his native land.

"For me the landscape is the thing that's been haunting me ever since I can remember," says Gunnarsson. "Just the potency of that landscape."

According to Gunnarsson, the calling of his homeland is also partly due to his childhood being full of such epic mythological tales, making the environment fit with his inner love of such tales. This early love of ancient stories is what drew him to the idea of retelling the epic Anglo-Saxon poem *Beowulf*.

"*Beowulf* represented for me a way of approaching [the Icelandic storytelling tradition] through the Icelandic language, and through the culture of Canada."

**"You don't know what [the weather] is going to do, but it's a big, powerful, forceful character, and the actors have to respond, and it creates that reality and spontaneity that we all strive for."**

DIRECTOR STURLA GUNNARSSON

Perhaps "retelling" is a bit of a misnomer, as the film makes several liberal interpretations of the original text, something that Gunnarsson is the first to admit.

"Because it swims out of an oral tradition, where it was told around campfires for hundreds of years and each storyteller told it their own way, we felt that the text was a living thing. And because it's



the prototype of a hero myth, we wanted to take a modern approach to it; that is, to explore what that hero myth is, and what it means.

"I think we've stayed true to the bones of the story. The big adjustment is taking it out of the mythological realm and into the natural world. We've made Grendel a creature of the natural world—once you make that leap, then all the choices follow from there.

According to Gunnarsson, other subtle attempts at modernizing the story, such as the use of different accents and dialects of English, was a conscious decision as well.

"The story takes place during the migration era, which was about 200 years before the Viking. People were travelling back and forth. I think every fjord and every village had

its own dialect, and we decided to embrace that."

In particular, says Gunnarsson, the speech of Beowulf, played by Scottish actor Gerard Butler, is intended to convey the rhythms and cadences of what we now call "Old English."

As for his decision to introduce Sarah Polley's newly created character Selma into the mix, Gunnarsson explains that some liberties were taken for the reason of storytelling.

"The story takes place in a moment of historical transition, from pagan to Christian culture. The introduction of her was to bring in that pagan mystic element—and also she's sort of critical to the turn of the plot."

Selma isn't the only one under such a pantheistic influence, however: Gunnarsson and

his crew "were at the mercy of the gods," he laughs, when shooting the film. Originally supposed to be shot in the summer of 2004, production ended up being delayed until the less hospitable climates of a late Icelandic autumn.

"We were losing six minutes a day of light. By the end I think we had about six and a half hours of light a day. But for the actors, I think it was fantastic, because it was like having an unwritten character in every scene. You don't know what [the weather] is going to do, but it's a big, powerful, forceful character, and the actors have to respond, and it creates that reality and spontaneity that we all strive for. It's like Stellan Skarsgård [who plays Hrothgar] said: In Iceland it's impossible to act too big."

## Epic film based on epic poem makes a few, mostly good, changes

### Review: *Beowulf and Grendel*

Directed by Sturla Gunnarsson  
Starring Gerard Butler, Stellan Skarsgård, Sarah Polley and Iqbal E. Sigurdsson  
Opens Friday, 10 March

ADAM GAUMONT  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

All right, so you've heard about this famous *Beowulf* poem of bygone days, about the Danes and Geats and their kings and so forth. But you might not have seen any movies on it—after all, there haven't been all that many made. Well, there was that one sci-fi version that came out a few years ago starring *Highlander* vet Christopher Lambert, but it's almost too awful to mention.

Thankfully, we now have *Beowulf and Grendel*, Icelandic-Canadian director Sturla Gunnarsson's creative rendition of the Anglo-Saxon epic, as an alternative. Gunnarsson sticks to the basic elements of the plot: Grendel (Ingvar Eggert Sigurdsson), a hideous beast, has been ravaging the mead-hall of Hrothgar (Stellan Skarsgård), the Danish king. Not knowing what

else to do, Hrothgar calls on Beowulf (Gerard Butler), living in a distant Geatish land, to come and bail him out. After apparently swimming all the way over, Beowulf vows to Hrothgar that he'll slay this Grendel fiend, dedicating himself to complete the task or die trying.

**Whether you end up embracing Gunnarsson's vision of this Anglo-Saxon classic or not, one thing is certain: it's loads better than that wretched Christopher Lambert version, and a lot easier to get through than the poem in Old English.**

For fans of the poem, similarities between it and the film end early (and, sadly, the bit about the dragon is left out). For one thing, Grendel is

not exactly a monster: he's actually a troll—is a really big, ugly human—one with trollish feelings and desires. He also likes to smash rocks against his forehead while screaming out primitive, doleful yelps across the fjords and also enjoys breaking the necks of predictably inept Danish soldiers.

Like the Grendel of old, he hates the rowdy, boisterous goings-on in the hall, but unlike his literary counterpart, this Grendel has a better reason for hating them than the fact that he's the kin of Cain and that the Danes are annoying Christians: Hrothgar killed his father. The movie's opening scene shows a young, boyish Grendel traumatized by this brutish warrior-king, only to be spared from the sword. Grendel becomes that much more sympathetic of a character, as his hatred for Hrothgar and his men is not only explained but arguably justified. Oh, monstrous world!

With this directorial decision, Gunnarsson and writer Andrew Rai Berzins seem to jump from beards to the Bard, as the story becomes a Shakespearean revenge tragedy—further removing itself from its source material—and not an epic parable about faith and honour.

But the film does retain many monstrous elements. For one thing, the film itself is something of a freakish creation, a curious blend of textual fidelity and modern adaptation, one that will make purists shriek and teenage boys delight.

Some changes are quaint and amusing: the characters all swear like sailors' parrots, for instance, and the sequence in which Grendel loses his arm will impress with its cleverness.

Other changes are less forgivable, however, at least to those who cherish the purity of the poem. Most notably, the character of Selma is introduced, an elusive (and sexy!) outsider (played by Sarah Polley) who lives on the outskirts of society and who is implicated in a plot twist far too revealing to reprint here.

Whether you end up embracing Gunnarsson's vision of this Anglo-Saxon classic or not, one thing is certain: it's loads better than that wretched Christopher Lambert version, and a lot easier to get through than the poem in Old English. If you can handle some creative changes to an epic work, *Beowulf and Grendel* is a great, if highly adapted, film.

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WHAT A STRETCH In *The Libertine*, Johnny Depp plays a John Wilmot, a man who has an easy time attracting women.

## Libertine for (very) liberal minds only

The *Libertine* is an excellent film, but only if you're down with sex and debauchery

### The Libertine

Directed by Laurence Dunmore  
Starring Johnny Depp, John Malkovich  
and Samantha Morton  
Opens Friday, 10 March

VICTOR VARGAS  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The *Libertine*, for better or worse, is a movie that you will either love or hate, with absolutely no middle ground. If you're squeamish about sex and sexual innuendos, weary of two-hour long movies that are essentially think pieces, or just want to see a raunchy movie where Captain Sparrow goes wild, then this is not the movie for you. *The Libertine* is a serious character study into the last years of writer and poet John Wilmot, a man known for his sexual exploits and drunkenness, and with a strong cast and excellent execution by newcomer director Laurence Dunmore, this is a tour de force of everything that makes a brilliant movie.

The film chronicles Wilmot's (Johnny Depp) life, focusing on his relationships with his mistress, actress Elizabeth Barry (Samantha Morton), King Charles II (John Malkovich) and his wife Elizabeth Malet (Rosamund Pike). The movie opens with a summation of Charles II's reign, followed up the appearance of Wilmot giving a monologue about what the movie shall entail—a warning to those squeamish about sex—and the repeated reminder that the audience will not like his character due to his lack of morals. The rest of the movie is the history of Wilmot's life, adventures and, of

course, notorious love affairs that helped shape his legacy.

**A lot of credit should be given to first-time director Laurence Dunmore for the film. Considering the amount of sexual innuendo—and flat-out sex—in the movie, Dunmore managed to make them artful and essential to the characterization of the story's players.**

Depp, leading the film, delivers a strong performance and is in particularly rare form for his role, capturing the passion and cynicism of Wilmot. Malkovich, as Charles II, reflects the noble art and intellect of his character with near-equal precision. However, neither Depp nor Malkovich manage to steal the show, as all the actors deliver excellent performances. In particular, the leading female actors give performances worth paying money to see, managing to make their characters memorable and endearing.

A lot of credit should be given to first-time director Laurence Dunmore for the film. Considering the amount of sexual innuendo—and flat out sex—in the movie,

Dunmore managed to make them artful and essential to the characterization of the story's players. And despite the gloomy backdrop of a dirt-ridden England and the depressing nature of Wilmot, well-timed and effective comic relief is skillfully placed throughout the film in a such an intelligent manner that it saves *The Libertine* from being an overly depressing movie.

The writing, however, deserves an equal amount of praise in bringing *The Libertine* to the screen in such a skillful manner. In particular, Wilmot's monologues are poetic and lend insight into both Depp's character and English society. The main arc of the plot may be predictable, but there are enough curveballs to surprise and peak your interest right to the end.

There are, however, some parts of the film that may not be well received by viewers. John Malkovich fans may be disappointed that his character receives limited screen time despite being one of the main names advertised for the film. *The Libertine* also suffers slightly because there is no real overarching plot to the story, but rather a series of small vignettes that are followed throughout the movie. The depressing backdrop of an England filled with dirt and makeup, where prostitution and other sexual misdeeds seem completely acceptable, still may turn others off.

Still, for those comfortable with sex and film with the admittedly few complaints that come with the movie, *The Libertine* stands as a rarity. It's filled with sex and debauchery, and still might be one of the best films of the year.

matthew mcconaughey sarah jessica parker

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# Shout Out Out Out have yet to pee pants onstage

Local dance-rock outfit hasn't made good on pants-peeing promise. Remarkably, their national popularity is still rapidly climbing

## Shout Out Out Out

with Twin Fangs and Eve Courneyer  
Friday, 10 March at 8pm  
PowerPlant

PAUL BIANOV  
Arts & Entertainment Staff

On their fall tour of Canada, Shout Out Out Out made a unique offer to its audiences: the band promised each crowd that if they rocked hard enough, a mystery member of the Edmonton six-piece would pee his pants onstage. It was quite an offer, one that would surely send fans into a frenzy. The burning question, of course, is if any audience rocked hard enough to witness a grown man wet himself on command.

"No," laughs Nik Kozub, member of the music collective. "Although it came super close. And for the record, we were fully prepared to do that if an audience rocked hard enough, but at each show there was always a couple of people sitting down. Lyle did eat an entire box of oranges onstage, though, so that's close to peeing one's pants, in a way."

Kozub—along with Jason Troock, Will Zimmerman, Clint Frazier and both Lyle Bell and Gravy from Whitley Houston—have the right to be in such high spirits. As of late, Shout Out Out Out has been drawing in large audiences all across Canada with their particular brand of dance-rock.

"It's been pretty baffling, actually," says Kozub. "We're starting to go to other cities and play sold-out shows, which is crazy. It's actually kind of

hard to wrap our heads around the fact that people have heard of us in other places. I'm pretty grateful, but if people are totally bugging out over your band in your hometown, there's no reason why you can't win over people in another town."

Even more impressive is the fact that the six-piece band has been pulling in such strong audiences with only a single vinyl release to their name, a problem that will soon be remedied as the group's first full-length album, *Not Sayin'/Just Sayin'*, is tentatively slated for a summer release. While it's not yet a finished product, Kozub is at no loss of words to articulate his art.

**"It's weird. I've been playing music my whole life, and it seems like this is the most anyone's ever cared about one of my bands. I'm stoked."**

NIK KOZUB

"The album's dancey stuff, with bummer lyrics about being in debt and such," chuckles Kozub. "Some of the songs we've played live, and some if it's brand-new stuff we're going to be playing live in upcoming shows."

"We've been working on it for close to three months now, it's all tracked, and we're going to get it mixed in the next month or so," he adds. "We're



planning to have it out in June."

Prior to their forthcoming release, though, Shout Out Out Out will be heading off for a handful of North American shows that will culminate at the South by Southwest music festival in Texas, known for getting the spotlight on groups who were otherwise relative unknowns. Before they depart, however, they'll be taking the stage U of A's PowerPlant this Friday, blasting their energetic brand of rock out for both those in attendance as well as radio listeners, as CBC Radio

Three will be recording the performance for a future broadcast. It's also worth noting that admission to the show is completely free, which pleases both the fans and the band.

"We really love free shows. You're pretty much guaranteed a cheap house, and people are generally in a better mood if they didn't pay any money. I also like that it's going to be broadcast, and we're going to get to play some of our new songs nationally, over the radio," explains Kozub. Whether or not any member of the

band pisses his pants onstage will have to be seen.

With so much praise being generated for the group, it seems like Shout Out Out Out is on the verge of being one of the biggest acts Edmonton has birthed in recent memory, a situation which, of course, suits the band just fine.

"It's weird," Kozub admits. "I've been playing music my whole life, and it seems like this is the most anyone's ever cared about one of my bands. I'm stoked."

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## SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

### *The Man Whose Mother Was A Pirate*

Directed by Tracy Carroll  
Adapted by Paula Wing  
7-19 march  
Citadel Theatre

Mothers are great; they bake homemade cookies, provide never-ending hugs, and sometimes they even launder our clothes when we're sick. While it's safe to say that we would, indeed, still love our mothers should they suddenly halt the fawning and fussing, the real question lies in whether or not we'd feel the same way if they were, uh, pirates.

The Citadel's production of *The Man Whose Mother Was A Pirate* is an entertaining, if unusual, story that centres around the dull and drab life of a man named Sam. Being a respected, well-dressed person who loves nothing better than practical solutions and rational thoughts, Sam seems to have everything he wants. However, there is one important aspect absent from his pragmatic life: adventure.

While I can't say whether or not I'd like my mother to be a pirate, it's apparent that people like Sam require one for guidance—and a little excitement. So whether you want to escape the didactic university atmosphere or return to your childhood roots, catch *The Man Whose Mother Was A Pirate*—eye patches and actual mothers optional.

### *Jets To Theory CD Release*

with Smashula and  
Chick Maggot  
Friday, 10 March at 8pm  
Victory Lounge

Edmonton-based rock group Jets To Theory has had their fair share of troubles in the past, but come this Friday, their luck is sure to change.

After encountering injuries, frequent departures and the unexpected death of a band member, Jets To Theory has finally been able to gather their musical talent and produce a seven-song EP. The band may come across as being plagued by disorder, but misfortunes aside, they boast a cornucopia of experiences and interests that contribute to their well-directed sound.

Despite the hectic circumstances the band has recently had to face, they've still managed to hone a catchy pop-punk sound worth checking out live. Even if you're not to certain about sharing a room with such unlucky fellows, it may just be worth catching a seat in the back.

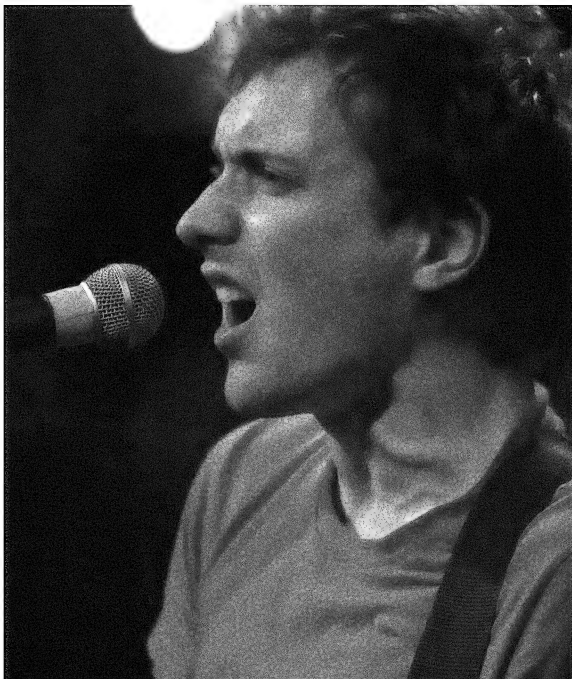
### *The Blame-Its*

with Dead City Serpents  
Friday, 10 March at 8pm  
Starlite Room

Hinton, in most regards, is simply known as "that town we pass through to get to Jasper." However, with the emergence of Hinton-based punk group the Blame-Its, the small mountain municipality might soon be known for more than its pungent pulp mill.

This Friday, the Blame-Its are bringing their pop-punk sound to Edmonton for their CD release party. After gaining huge amounts of airtime on CJSR and touring endlessly across the country, the mountain-grown trio is ready to solidify their energy into the shape of an album. So if you're interested in what Hinton is producing other than paper, make sure to mosey on down to the Starlite Room this Friday.

AMANDA ASH  
Arts & Entertainment Staff



REAL WILDING

**MOANING THROUGH THE SET** Brampton, Ontario punk band Moneen played the Powerplant last Friday. The band made the U of A one of their last Canadian stops on their North American tour promoting their forthcoming album.

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**CG'D LOTR FOR PC** The latest Lord of the Rings game features better gameplay, making it a standout release for the series

## And one game to rule them all

LOTR game franchise has more installments than the movie trilogy, but the latest release, *The Battle for Middle Earth II*, trumps its prescursors

### **Lord of the Rings: The Battle for Middle-Earth II**

Developed by EA Los Angeles

Published by EA Games

PC, Xbox 360

Rated T

On sale now

RAMIN OSTAD

Arts & Entertainment Staff

In the last three years, Electronic Arts has made plenty of use out of the repopularized Lord of the Rings series. With one game for each of Peter Jackson's film adaptations, and 2004's real-time strategy game *The Lord of the Rings: The Battle for Middle-Earth*, you would think that EA has run the gamut of content for the series. The programmers must have had this thought in mind too, because *Battle for Middle-Earth II* avoids using a repetitive story-line and familiar characters by incorporating the entire Tolkien license (as opposed to just the movie material), allowing the player to live out new battles and unseen moments taken from the many Middle Earth books.

*BfME II* does many things to improve upon its predecessor. While it still consists of two campaign modes—one for the "evil" side and one for the "good"—it avoids the increasingly repetitive battles of the original by doing away with the "living-world map" where intense attack/defense sequences were interrupted by uninteresting skirmishes. Instead, *BfME II* uses a more traditional structure, consisting of eight missions for each campaign, all of which are increasingly entertaining and difficult.

While the original *Battle for Middle-Earth* followed the adventures of the

main Lord of the Rings storyline, the campaigns of this year's game focus more on the battles that took place in the north of Middle Earth between the Elves, Dwarves, and Goblins—all three of which are brand-new playable races, joining Isengard, Mordor, and Men from the first game.

***Battle for Middle-Earth II* is definitely a step above its predecessor. Three new playable races, changes in gameplay and the addition of the War of the Ring mode give the game extended playability, adding to a game that already looks and sounds phenomenal.**

Each of the new races have their own diverse play style, and each campaign gives players the ability to fully explore each race's strengths and weaknesses. The Dwarves are very battle hardy, and are great at penetrating walls and buildings. Unfortunately, they are the most costly and slow-building race. The Goblins are almost the complete opposite, having cheap buildings and units. However, they're very weak, so using them effectively is a juggling act. The Elves are somewhere in between in terms of costliness and building speed, but their effec-

tiveness against buildings and structures is much lower than against live units.

One of *BfME II*'s more creative improvements is allowance for free-form base building—as opposed to set build plots from the first game—allowing for massive bases which can be protected by walls built in a radius around your fortress. This essentially shifts the focus of the game towards building a large base, as powerful an army as possible and crushing your enemy. This strays heavily from games like *Starcraft* and *Dawn of War* that use focus points like set resource locations to determine the shift of power. *BfME II*'s focus on army power allows for a much more strategic game—especially in online multiplayer—and adds a level of authenticity to the use of the Tolkien franchise.

Other than the new playable races, there are two other additions to the series that add some interesting depth. First, you are able to make your own character that can be incorporated into your multiplayer games. Unfortunately there isn't much in the way of classes and skills to choose from, leaving this feature with a bit to be desired. There is also a new "War of the Ring" mode. This is essentially a RISK-type game, where you move your forces across a 3D map of Middle-Earth, vying for supremacy. It's a neat little addition that, while lacking in depth, adds to an already fun multiplayer experience.

*Battle for Middle-Earth II* is definitely a step above its predecessor. Three new playable races, changes in gameplay and the addition of the War of the Ring mode give the game extended playability, adding to a game that already looks and sounds phenomenal.

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**B**efore anything gets started, these endorsements come with some caveats. First and foremost, I spent an entire week following around candidates in an effort to get to know them personally; in no way do my opinions here reflect on their character. This is a combination of platforms, performance at forums and a general sense of their ability to do the jobs they've set out to do, as I understand those jobs. I won't pretend that I like every candidate in the race, but whether or not I want to have a beer with them is, in my opinion, entirely irrelevant to whether or not they'll do a good job in whatever position they run for.

Secondly, I have some personal relationships with some of the candidates that I should get out of the way, in the interest of fairness. Chris Samuel and I had a class together over the summer, and I've seen him on several occasions socially; I haven't spent more than two hours of my entire life talking to Sam Power, but I do know her boyfriend fairly well; Amanda-Leigh Hanson and I see each other semi-regularly at local drinking establishments, and I've never turned down a chance to talk to her. So there: my personal biases, laid out, so none can complain. I don't feel that they affect my decisions here in any way, but in the interest of honesty and fairness, there they are.

With that said, here's how I think you should vote in the 2006 SU election.

#### Tobacco Plebiscite

The plebiscite questions are, to me, quite obvious. The smoking ban question didn't have anyone running the "no" campaign, but it was hardly needed. I'm against the idea of a complete smoking ban in general, but even if I were for it, the sheer ineptitude of the "yes" side would turn me. Nowhere have I seen even one salient point in favour of the ban—smoking is outlawed at Edmonton Public Schools because teenagers aren't legally allowed to purchase cigarettes, for the love of God—and Shereen Kangerloo has been more or less bullshitted by every question thrown her way, either at the forums or in our paper. This campaign would have been absolutely shredded by any opposition whatsoever.



#### Physical Activity Complex Plebiscite

As for PAC, I will be sorely disappointed in the student body if this proposal goes through. The "yes" campaign in this debate has done little but cheerlead and appeal to a muddled notion of school pride (oh, and suggest that students are too incompetent to run a building)—chiefly, in my opinion, because if they tried to appeal to voters with facts, they'd reveal how incredibly misguided this proposal is. The University board responsible for the approval of new buildings deemed PAC too low a priority to warrant funding; we'd be locking future students in to a \$40 fee for 30 years, with absolutely no chance to repeal it, and virtually no say in how it's run, despite the fact they've paid the great majority of the cost for it; we'd tacitly be telling the University that we have absolutely no problem paying more for our education, basically so long as we get to vote on it first, instead of them; we'd be setting a dangerous precedent for future buildings deemed unnecessary; on top of all of this, if we don't pass it, there's a decent chance the building will get built anyway, since the Department of Phys Ed already has contingency plans laid out if this plebiscite fails. This is as emphatic a "no" as I'll ever say.

#### BoG Representative and VPA

The uncontested races are equally obvious. Chris Samuel and Amanda Henry are, unquestionably, the two best candidates running in the entire race. Samuel is both experienced enough to know how to be effective on the U of A Board of Governors and personable enough to probably be able to get some of the things he's promising done, or at the very least set in motion. There's probably not another candidate in the race as knowledgeable about the SU as he is, and he's also eloquent enough to be able to talk to the rest of the board such that they'll listen. Even if he weren't running unopposed, he'd be my vote.

##### 1. Chris Samuel

The same goes for Amanda Henry. Not only has she been the Assistant Vice-President (Academic) for a year, she's been an exceptional one. She knows the position inside and out, has set attainable goals, and knows what needs to be done to accomplish

them. She'll be able to work with anyone else on the executive towards common goals, and she has a considerable leadership streak, which there can never be too little of on the exec. As with Samuel, even unopposed, I have no idea who would have to be running against her for me to vote another way.

##### 1. Amanda Henry

#### VPSL

After that, selections get considerably harder. Any of the three VPSL candidates would probably do a superb job. Hanson is the outsider, and while she has the least amount of practical knowledge about what the position entails, four years of deeply entrenched VPSLs hasn't convinced me that knowledge of the organization is terribly valuable in this position, and I think the directions she wants to take the position in are interesting. Having said that, both Kalil and Yusuf have similar visions, and are fairly extensively involved with the bread and butter of the position, the events (WOW, Antifreeze, Orientation). Because the cynic in me thinks that the VPSL position won't actually change all that much, I'm going to go with the one with the most experience, which will presumably make the smoothest sailing: Omer Yusuf. That said, I would happily see any of these candidates in the position.

1. Omer Yusuf
2. Sarah Kalil
3. Amanda-Leigh Hanson

#### VPOF

I feel almost the exact opposite about VP (Operations/Finance). If it were possible to combine all three candidates, I'd be sat, but all three have serious flaws that, in my opinion, don't quite overcome their strengths. Cam Lewis is knowledgeable enough, but the fact his campaign was virtually nonexistent until Thursday of last week raises questions for me about his capability. Theresa Chapman is dedicated and enthusiastic, and will very probably make an excellent VP (Ops/B) in a year's time, but I worry slightly about giving an exec position to

# SU Indecision 2006

Steve Smith

**B**efore proceeding with my endorsements, I must acknowledge a number of biases. First, I spent three years as an elected student politician, during which time I acquired a number of strong views on the subjects that are discussed during election campaigns. My views on these subjects are but one set of many valid ones, but they will necessarily impact my recommendations. Second, I now manage the business affairs of the Gateway, for which the SU is a landlord, a customer, a major source of funding, and a de facto regulatory body—it would be impossible for my views on the SU and the candidates seeking to run it not to be affected by this. Finally, I count a number of the candidates as personal friends; it is a function of the incestuous nature of student politics that anybody qualified to offer an endorsement is plagued by such personal biases. While I try to be as objective as possible, I'm only human.

Here, then, are my endorsements, as biased as they are informed. If you're using this as your sole source of election information, you probably shouldn't be voting at all.

#### Tobacco Plebiscite

The plebiscite on banning tobacco from campus is direct democracy as it should be: one student wanting to make a difference. Unfortunately, what Shereen Kangerloo's unopposed campaign had in passion and enthusiasm, it more than made up for in lack of substance. Even if you accept her argument that it's the University's role to encourage a smoke-free lifestyle, concerns about the safety of students walking off-campus for a late-night smoke haven't been satisfactorily addressed. Neither have concerns about what the University's neighbours would think

about newly cigarette-butt-strewn lawns. Moreover, there is no evidence that an on-campus tobacco ban would prevent a single cigarette from being smoked. This plebiscite deserves to fail.

#### Physical Activity Complex Plebiscite

I commend the Yes side for its clear desire to make campus a better place. I commend the No side for its reasoned arguments, most of which the Yes side has made no real attempt to refute. Allowing a faculty to seek a student levy to build a building that the University has refused to finance sets an absurd precedent. That students would be paying off a mortgage without gaining any equity is also troublesome, as is the lack of any measure to exempt Campus Saint-Jean and Augustana Faculty students from the fee. Even if you accept that the provision of fitness facilities is critical to the University's mandate, and I don't, this plebiscite too deserves a No vote.

#### BoG Representative

Chris Samuel is knowledgeable, committed, and smart. He will challenge the Board of Governors in areas where it deserves to be challenged but hasn't, such as the fact that undergraduate members of the Board are inexplicably denied access to the proceedings of two key Board committees. My only major concern with Samuel is that the Board holds its Friday morning meetings at an hour at which he does not make a habit of consciousness. If he promises to buy an alarm clock, he deserves your vote.

##### 1. Chris Samuel

#### VPA

Amanda Henry is a sound candidate for this position. She has a working knowledge of the issues facing the portfolio from her work as Associate VPA. She hits most of the portfolio's critical points in her platform, including the need to address faculty-level lobbying in an increasingly decentralized university. She promises to continue work on her predecessors' long-standing priorities, which is important given the slow pace of change at the University level. I don't anticipate her term being a time of revolutionary progress, but she should make incremental progress on key priorities.

##### 1. Amanda Henry

#### VPSL

This is a difficult race because it's a difficult position to do anything meaningful with. Its mandate is broad and ill-defined, including such disparate elements as the Week of Welcome, parking rates and residence life. It's ill-equipped to address many of the issues for which it is nominally responsible—for example, parking rates are set by the Board of Governors, over which the VPSL has no influence. While all candidates acknowledge these problems, concrete remedies are in short supply.

Amanda-Leigh Hanson has little to offer beyond a pledge to improve promotion of existing services and events, and her promises of a survey to gauge student opinion don't address how this survey would differ from the many other such surveys the SU has performed. She also proposes to focus on tuition issues, which are, her claims to the contrary notwithstanding,



someone who has only been on campus for six months. Chris Cunningham is easily the shrewdest businessperson of the lot, but the fact he's suggesting to get rid of dedicated fees shows how little he knows about the organization, which could affect how he can do his job. While I'd unreservedly rank any one of these people second, I can't calm myself enough to rank any of them first. I'll vote none of the above, in the hopes that another campaign would let one of them address these issues.

1. None of the Above
2. Chris Cunningham
3. Theresa Chapman
4. Cam Lewis

#### VFX

I see a similar problem in the VP (External) race. I honestly hope that Damini Mohan gets involved with the SU, and especially that she manages to hold on to the dissatisfaction and idealism that she so obviously has while she's gaining experience. As it stands right now, though, I wouldn't feel comfortable sending in someone lacking the practical knowledge she does to be the single voice against the government. As for Blythe Morrow and Dave Courmoyer, my main problem with them is that they want to keep doing what was done this year, and while that has some merits, to do only that would be a large mistake. While I think the "Roll it Back, Ralph!" campaign succeeded in garnering student attention, and a limited amount of ministerial attention, I think those are the less-important parts of the lobbying coin. For lobbying to truly be effective, I think

you need the attention of the general populace (something done to success with the "I (Heart) Alberta Education" lawn signs two years ago) and that efforts with the government need to include advocacy at all levels, not just meetings with the ministers. Neither of these two seems to acknowledge that, and two straight years of effectively ignoring the average Albertan could seriously hurt our position there. Courmoyer's experience makes him the front-runner for me, but I'd need to know it's enough to overcome a somewhat-flawed plan, or at least that he'd focus more on rallying people off campus. I'm still likely voting none of the above, with Courmoyer a close second.

1. None of the Above
2. Dave Courmoyer
3. Damini Mohan
4. Blythe Morrow

#### President

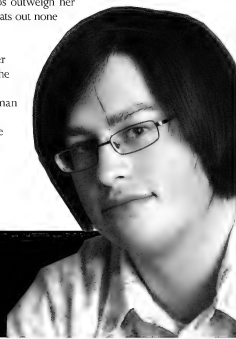
And finally, president. Greg German has ideas that I like—rural advocacy, which a few candidates in other races picked up on, and increasing the community atmosphere on campus—but I don't see many plausible ways he can pull them off: they're mostly nice-sounding platitudes. As well, his view that the president should avoid adversarial relationships with administration and the government disturbs me: certainly, it's best if we can get along, but both branches have shown time and again an unwillingness to work with students (for generally valid reasons on the other side), and comments like the ones he made at

the Myer forum make me question whether he would be willing to start fighting if that's what was required. My biggest sticking point, though, is the fact that perhaps the main job of the president is to coordinate the exec into a cohesive unit—when he or she can't do that, we see missed opportunities and general ineffectiveness, which gives us an exec less than the sum of its parts, and with Letter's inability to rally anyone to anything this year, I doubt German's ability to work with people with opposing viewpoints to his own, and I see very few other candidates with his view of the issues.

As for Sam Power, my reservations with her are similar to VFX, chiefly because her platform is almost exclusively focused on external issues, and she was behind the "Roll it Back, Ralph!" campaign, which I don't think was nearly as effective as she does. Her experience is greater, though, and the position a different one: I think she's able to organize people, and is probably actually better behind the scenes than in front of them. She isn't my ideal candidate, but I think her pros outweigh her cons, so she beats out none of the above.

1. Sam Power
2. None of the Above
3. Greg German

There you have it, for what it's worth.



## David Berry

So, you need another perspective on the SU elections before you cast your ballot. Here you have the perspective of both election reporter and *Gateway* Managing Editor David Berry, and Hack Club Seven member and former Vice-President (Operations & Finance) Steve Smith. Of course, as always, if this is the only tool you're using to inform your voting, don't. This is merely meant as an additional perspective on a complex choice.

clearly outside of the Student Life portfolio.

Sarah Kalil identifies the position's problems more eloquently than either of her opponents, but can offer no solution to them more specific than "constant critical evaluation, innovation, and effort." While her proposals to create a parking registry and adopt the Peer Health Educators as an SU service have merit, on questions of overall direction she's in the same league as Hanson.

Omer Yusuf too fails in defining in broad strokes where the portfolio should go, though his extensive experience and clear agenda on specific issues make him a credible candidate nonetheless.

I set the bar low in this race, and all candidates easily clear it. I give Kalil the nod for having the strongest (if still vague) commitment to reform, followed by Yusuf for his experience, but this is somewhat arbitrary and alternative rankings are no less reasonable.

1. Sarah Kalil
2. Omer Yusuf
3. Amanda-Leigh Hanson

#### VPOF

Unlike other portfolios, which focus on seeking change from entities over which the SU has no control, the VPOF is responsible for the internal direction of the SU itself, making it in many ways the position best-equipped to effect change.

Theresa Chapman doesn't seem to realize this. Her primary campaign promise is to address the lack of accountability in the non-academic fees collected by the University, which has nothing to do with the VPOF. Though a hard worker, Chapman has a record of making ill-conceived proposals in Students' Council that die quickly for lack of support, and her rapidly increasing knowledge have translated into little in the way of penetrating insight.

Owing to his lack of SU experience, Chris Cunningham does not understand many of the issues forcing the portfolio. His primary platform plank—eradicating SU fees by increasing business revenues—is not viable in the short-term, and is suspect

even in the long-term absent significant cost-cutting, which is unfortunately not part of Cunningham's platform. However, his record of past accomplishments appears impressive, and an excess of ambition is a lesser sin than the lack of it.

Cameron Lewis has considerable SU experience. Unfortunately, he hasn't done as much as he could have with it, and has a tendency to be too easily influenced by strong personalities. Moreover, his substandard campaign and spotty attendance record on some committees give an impression of laziness, though a full-time Executive position could remedy this. His focus on increasing resources for SU advocacy is a good one.

The choice in this race is between Cunningham and Lewis. My own choice results mostly from Cunningham's apparent lack of effort in researching the issues surrounding the portfolio, but it's close.

1. Cameron Lewis
2. Chris Cunningham
3. None of the Above

#### VFX

Blythe Morrow believes that SU lobbying efforts would be more effective if they were "nicer." She believes that the road to success lies in "discussing rather than demanding." She's wrong. Governments are not motivated by affection in their formulation of policy, but by fear. The SU needs to ensure that the government places itself in electoral danger if it neglects universities, and the public and media are its best tools in doing so. Morrow critically undervalues them.

Damini Mohan lies at the opposite extreme, and her emphasis on media strategy, the mobilization of on-campus resources, and building coalitions with like-minded groups appeals to me greatly. Unfortunately, she may support joining the Canadian Federation of Students, and the federal government is, despite what is claimed by at least one candidate every year, not tangentially involved in postsecondary education. Perhaps the greatest strike against Mohan was her failure to grill her opponents at the Horowitz forum; from somebody who wants to spend the next year asking pointed questions of government, it was an ominous sign.

David Courmoyer has a vast knowledge base on Alberta post-secondary policy, having relevant experience in both the SU and cesspool trenches of partisan politics. Unsurprisingly, only his campaign hits every major issue facing students at the external level. While he is more mild-mannered than may be desirable in a VFX, this is a small reservation when compared to the deficiencies of his opponents.

1. David Courmoyer
2. Damini Mohan
3. None of the Above

#### President

Since Samantha Power is a friend of mine, you might think that I would have to guard against the temptation to endorse her in the face of a more qualified opponent. In this race, that's not an issue—Greg German is totally unqualified to be SU President. As President of the University of Alberta Science Undergraduate Society (UASUS), he's known primarily for his failure to adhere to SU rules in consecutive drafts of a faculty association membership fee proposal. He shares Blythe Morrow's ineffective philosophy on advocacy. He has no understanding of the SU's structure, among other things stating that external strategy is the sole purview of the VFX (to the exclusion of the President), and that the mobilization of students in attempts to influence the government are the responsibility of the VFXL. His platform is nearly devoid of proposals that are both specific and substantive. Greg German is an easy candidate to reject.

My support of Samantha Power is not without reservations. For example, the "Roll it Back, Ralph!" campaign was modestly successful in on-campus mobilization, but was not accompanied with sufficient media-relations efforts to engage the off-campus community on the question of Alberta's new tuition policy. However, Power has indicated throughout the campaign that she knows what has to change and, with a year of experience and a few mistakes under her belt, she should make that change.

1. Samantha Power
2. None of the Above

# SPORTS

sports@gateway.alberta.ca • Thursday, 9 March, 2006

## Hockey Bears ready to add another banner to their collection

Reigning national champions set to face Huskies in rematch of last year's gold medal match; winner will claim Canada West crown

ROSS PRISAKOWSKI  
Sports Staff

With Sundays a day off from playing and practicing, some members of the Golden Bears hockey team were staying a little closer to home last weekend to see how their volleyball brethren fared at nationals. As they watched their volleyball counterparts falter in the final, it wouldn't hurt the hockey squad to have learned a valuable lesson—it really doesn't matter who wins the conference title if you can't take the national title as well.

However, while the team is mindful of this fact heading into this weekend's best-of-three Canada West final against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies, don't tell them that the conference title doesn't mean anything. With the Huskies one of the favourites heading into nationals, the Bears believe there's a lot riding on this weekend's series. This despite the fact that, regardless of the series' outcome, both teams will advance to the University Cup, hosted by Alberta later this month.

"I think it's huge for us and there's a lot of pride to have that Canada West trophy to be here for another year," said Bears captain Gavin McLeod. "There are guys that have been here and won it for four years in a row, and we know how important it is just for seeding at nationals. If you enter the national tournament as the number-one team, you get the fourth- and sixth-place teams instead of the second and third, so in that sense it's important for us."

"It's all about pride," added Bears head coach Eric Thurston, talking over his assistant coaches who loudly agreed that Alberta is a "banner-collecting team."

While the Bears may be banner-hungry this weekend, they're going to be facing a dangerous Huskies squad that boasts Dean Beuker and Brent Twardzik, two of the top-ten scorers in CIS. Also, Saskatchewan will almost certainly enter the series with a chip on their shoulders, after being beaten by the Bears 3-1 in both of their



IN THE CUT Ben Kilgour and the Bears hockey team will go head-to-head with the Saskatchewan Huskies in the Canada West final this weekend.

FILE PHOTO: NICK WIEBE

last two meetings.

"[All of the games against Saskatchewan] are big, and that weekend was big in the sense that we kept playing well at home and one of our goals at the start of the year was to finish first overall," said Thurston of the Bears' and Huskies'

last series at the end of January. "Regardless of that, we expect that they're a very skilled team."

"They're an exceptional team and they've been top-three rated all year," added McLeod. "They're going to be one of the better teams we face all year and you always want to match yourself up

against the best competition."

The Bears will get to see how they match up with the Huskies in their last series before nationals when the puck drops at 7:30pm on both Friday and Saturday, with a 7pm start time pencilled in for Sunday should a tie-breaker be required.

## Hockey Pandas not the biggest fish on the frozen pond this weekend at nationals

JAKE  
TROUGHTON

Sports  
Commentary



Heading into the national championship this weekend, the Pandas hockey team has been so good for so long, it's easy to forget they lost the thing last year.

They've been stellar throughout this season, going unbeaten in 23 games after an opening night loss, which is certainly reason for optimism. But then, they were on a bit of a streak entering last year's final as well—a mere 110 games or so—and look now that turned out for them. And despite their somewhat surprising success during the Canada West season (they were expected to really dominate, rather than totally dominate), they're a weaker team than last year's edition, which featured the best player in CIS history in Danielle Bourgeois and a Team Canada member in Delaney Collins, among other now-departed stars.

So the question is: will this year's Pandas do what last year's couldn't and win CIS gold? They won't like me for saying it, but I suspect the answer is no. It's unlikely they'll be outscored 25-8 in the second period of the final, but it seems the U of A is headed for a second-straight week of national championship disappointment.

This weekend, the Pandas are ranked second in the country and will be underdogs, however slight, for the first time in—well, just about ever.

And the thing is, they're underdogs for a reason. They've dominated Canada West, posting a 20-1-3 record, but the conference is weaker than Ontario's, and that's where the top-ranked Wilfred Laurier Golden Hawks come in.

I don't want to disrespect the other four teams at the championship, but I'm going to anyway: Alberta and Laurier will meet in the gold-medal game. It was Laurier who stunned the Pandas in last year's final, and they've kept it up this season. Even after losing goaltender Cindy Jadin, whose stellar performance last year played a huge part in the Hawks' 4-1 win over Alberta, they've hardly lost a step. They're 22-3-1, and new starting goaltender Morgan Wielgosz has posted a miniscule goals against average of 1.14.

The Pandas, meanwhile, have been winning, but the games have been much closer. They scored 50 fewer goals than a year ago, and have lacked a killer instinct: for instance, in the final game of the Canada West final, they were up 3-0 and 4-2, but only managed to squeak out a 5-4 overtime win, despite thoroughly outplaying the Manitoba Bisons, and out-shooting them 46-12.

That won't do against Laurier. The Pandas won't get as many shots, so they need to start scoring on more of them. And they'll certainly face more than twelve shots, so they'll need to do a lot better than a .667 save percentage.

In the end, I think that's what will make the difference: The Pandas just won't stack up in goal. They've been a stingy team defensively—it's the one area they're probably better in than last year—but starting goaltender Holly Tarleton has struggled. Her 1.38 goals against average seems good, until you consider that she's faced less than 14 shots per game, meaning her save percentage



QUEEN'S LOGIC Mia Mucci (right) and the Pandas want the CIS women's hockey crown back.

FILE PHOTO: BEN BEGLAY

is a discouraging .898. There's a big gap between that and Wielgosz's performance, and the Pandas no longer have the offensive firepower to make up for disappointments in goal—not against a team like Laurier, anyway.

None of this is to say that the Pandas can't win,

and I have no doubt the Pandas will be competitive with the Hawks if and when they meet. Last year, however, they were a better team and still couldn't find a way to beat Laurier. When they meet again, it's hard to see the result being any different.

# Pandas volleyball gets no love in Calgary



ANDREW  
RENFREE

Sports  
Commentary

I know that, as university students, you're likely cramming your brains with facts that will long be forgotten come May, but I ask you to spare a bit of room in your cortex for some simple directions. Take Highway 2 south to Calgary and turn west onto Highway 1 (you may have heard of it, it's called the Trans-Canada), then turn north onto University Drive. Surely that wasn't too complicated, and if I, a severely navigationally challenged man, could use those instructions last weekend, surely you can as well.

These simple directions lead to the University of Calgary. Until recently, I had no plans to set foot in our post-secondary rival to the south, but covering the women's national volleyball championship last weekend had me doing just that. One question remains, though: why the hell didn't anyone else take said directions this weekend to cheer on the Pandas volleyball team in the national finals?

Finding an Alberta supporter in the crowd was harder than finding Waldo in a pile of candy-canes. Sure, there were a few parents and friends supporting the green and gold, but they were lost among the fans rallying other teams. At least 50 people came to cheer on the UBC Thunderbirds, and not only did they make the trek from Vancouver, they all came adorned with blue and yellow team colours, face and body paint, dyed hair, and yellow T-Bird

hats. They had noisemakers aplenty, and one man even brought a trumpet to lead the crowd in charge cheers. Laval also brought a contingent of a dozen or so faithful fans dressed in red and gold team colours and holding Laval flags. It's less than 300km from Edmonton to Calgary, and it's more than 4000km from Laval, yet the latter had stronger fan support. Come on, people!

## Finding an Alberta supporter in the crowd was harder than finding Waldo in a pile of candy-canes.

In fact, on Sunday I had to search throughout the entire Jack Simpson Gym to find a single man wearing an Alberta jersey. Doug Springstein should be given some kind of a plaque for representing an entire university of 35 000 people some three hours away. Those are large shoes to fill, but Springstein stepped up to the challenge. He noted that he wasn't impressed with the lack of fans for Alberta, and that support for the Pandas "could have been better."

Maybe you think that U of A athletes need peace and quiet to focus on their sport, but this isn't golf—it's the volleyball we're talking about here. Incidentally, the two teams with the best fans ended up playing in the gold-medal game. True, Laval and UBC were favoured from the start, but if the Pandas had, I don't know, maybe ten fans there, they might have finished better than sixth place. One of the blue-faced, T-Birds supporters was Drew Webber,

who plays for the UBC men's volleyball team. He and a few teammates came to cheer on their female counterparts for their gold medal game. He said that having strong support means a lot to an athlete.

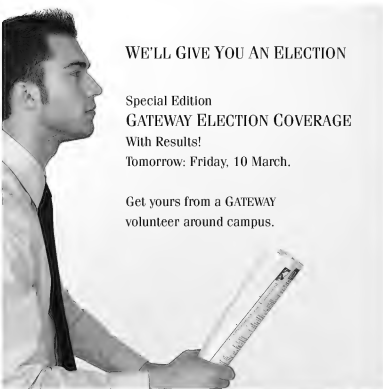
"It feels great as an athlete to have the crowd into it," he said. "Playing in the national finals would be a great experience if the gym were empty, but having all of these supporters here makes it even better. These athletes will remember this moment when they look back on it in ten or 20 years."

In Alberta's final game, the gym was full of Trinity Western supporters who brought signs and were ready to yell for their team, but you could have almost heard crickets when the Pandas scored.

The Dinos fans were also out in full force, and I have to give U of C credit (as much as I hate to admit it): the Dinos did a great job getting their fans involved by giving out "Go Dinos Go" posters and inflatable Thunder Stix to bang together when the Dinos made a big play. Jim Erhart, from Calgary, was amongst the Dinos' faithful, despite his team's absence from the gold medal game. Erhart said that university sports are one of the more exciting and economical forms of entertainment.

"I think these teams are just outstanding to watch," he said. "For the amount of time and money you put in, it's a much better return than going to the NHL or even the CFL, those tickets are just too expensive for what you get. I've paid 30 bucks and I've seen ten games this weekend—\$3 a game, you can't beat that."

It's too bad more people from the U of A couldn't find \$30 to come and support the Pandas.



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# WBC brings international flavour to baseball



BEN  
CARTER

Sports  
Commentary

In the summer of 2004, Major League Baseball embarked on one of the more ambitious projects in the recent history of professional sports. The World Baseball Classic, a 16-team tournament featuring the world's top players competing for their national teams for the first time, was to take place in March of 2006.

The WBC is now upon us, and critics by members of the American sports media has been particularly vitriolic. Commentators such as Jim Rome have taken every opportunity to criticize almost every element of the tournament, while numerous others have labelled it as unnecessary and a distraction to the MLB season at hand.

MLB players and executives have also criticized the tournament. Concerns over injuries have led many top players to withdraw from the games. At a New York Yankees spring training last week, a sign was posted apologizing for the absences of several top Yankees who were away participating in the WBC. However, the sharpness of their statement was somewhat dulled after the sign maker misspelled the team name as the "Yankess."

Certainly, the road has been a little rocky over the past few years for the WBC, but history has shown us that international tournaments such as

these rarely have a smooth ride to legitimacy.

Nearly a decade after the first World Cup of Hockey and the 1998 Nagano Olympics, the NHL is still unsure of the future involvement of its players in these tournaments. The United States Baseball Program is starting over, after realizing that the Olympics and World Baseball Championships have finally become a true international tournament.

What many in the American sports media are forgetting is that this tournament, like the sport of baseball itself, is no longer the exclusive property of the United States. In the past ten years, baseball has been infused with talented Asian players, just as it was generations ago with talent from Latin America. Major League Baseball understands this. If the cost for slightly disrupting spring training every four years is massive international attention on the league and the sport, Major League Baseball seems to be willing to accept this trade-off with pleasure.

Tournament reports from Latin American and Asia reveal a success. Games between baseball-mad Latin American countries such as the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico and Venezuela are expected to bring their countries to a standstill.

As well, Caribbean fans have provided colour and energy in abundance at games played in the United States. Earlier this week in Tokyo, South Korea played Japan in a game that supposedly meant nothing, as both countries have already advanced to the second round of the tournament. However, the two teams played

as if the future of their countries themselves were at stake. In front of 40 000 fans, Korea pulled off the upset, with Chan Ho Park striking out Ichiro Suzuki to record the final out. Park and Suzuki had engaged in some good old American-style trash-talk before the tournament, with Suzuki imploring his teammates to beat Korea "in such a fashion that they won't think they can beat Japan for 30 years." Park had the last laugh, however, scoring the huge upset in a game that meant little in the tournament or in the United States, but means everything to those in Korea and Japan.

All of this is the excitement that the WBC promised, and early on in the competition we are seeing that it's delivering.

Chan Ho Park and Ichiro Suzuki play in different leagues on two average teams, and a meeting at any other juncture between the two won't exactly be making headlines anywhere. In this context, though, the match-up between these two, and others, is of incredible importance to their countries. In less than two years, MLB has created an international tournament that has captured the imagination of fans and players from around the world.

Baseball is an international game at this point, and kudos go to those in Major League Baseball who are unafraid to try something ambitious to promote the game worldwide. Despite the regretful attitudes of some in baseball, the WBC will be a success, ensured by the devotion of international baseball fans from all markets.

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The Gateway is accepting applications for the following line editor positions\* for the 2006/2007 publishing year:

MANAGING EDITOR

SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

DEPUTY NEWS EDITOR

OPINION EDITOR

SPORTS EDITOR

ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

PHOTO EDITOR

DESIGN &amp; PRODUCTION EDITOR

All terms run from 1 May 2006 to 30 April 2007. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Four issues of the Gateway will be produced over the summer months. All line editors will be expected to train on at least two of the four summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of \$100/issue. In their full-time capacities, the salaries for each position are as follows: Managing and Senior News will receive \$1500\*\* per month; all other line editors will receive \$1185\*\* per month. Please note that candidates may apply for no more than two (2) positions, except by special dispensation of the Line Editor Selection Committee. Applicants should submit a covering letter, resume and portfolio to [GatewayBusinessManager](mailto:GatewayBusinessManager@stlouis.com) (Steve Smith, 492-6669, [biz@gatewaystlouis.ca](mailto:biz@gatewaystlouis.ca)) by noon on Friday, 10 March 2006. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

\* Complete job descriptions subject to change available at [www.gatewaystlouis.ca/hrinfo/](http://www.gatewaystlouis.ca/hrinfo/)  
\*\* Pay will be adjusted for CFI over the summer and may increase.

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## Jays, Cards, A's and Cubs among Gateway sports staff's MLB picks for 2006 season



### GATEWAY SPORTS STAFF

Group Commentary

AL East, you've been forewarned!

That said, however, I'm going out on a limb and saying that this year's edition of the fall classic will finally see the St. Louis Cardinals emerge as champions. Picking up pitching depth in the off-season to compliment Chris Carpenter, along with strong hitting and fielding led by Albert Pujols, should hopefully put them over the top. Having been defeated by the Bo-Sox two years ago in the World Series and losing to Houston in last year's NL championship, the Cards are due for their first pennant since 1982. In 2006, the third time will prove to be a charm for St. Louis.

Trevor Phillips

"Touch'em all Joe, you'll never hit a bigger one in your life!" That was the sound that rang from the late Tom Chalk's voice as Joe Carter rounded first, after hitting one of the most memorable home runs in World Series history. Thirteen years later, there's a renewed sense of optimism in the city of Toronto, as Blue Jays' owner Ted Rogers finally loosened his purse strings this past off-season and gave general manager JP Ricciardi \$25 million extra to work with. The crafty GM was able to land five quality players that filled gaping holes in the Jays roster and turned the .500 hopefuls into division contenders.

Though I would like to go on singing the praises of the transactions made by JP and trash the Red Sox fire sale or the Yankees over confidence, it's easier to say that the '06 edition of the Jays is the best to patrol the astro-grass of Sky ... err, Roger's Centre since 1993. The Jays' new roster has homerun pop, gold-glove defence, a fortified starting rotation, a lights-out bullpen and a wide range of young talent. This roster is still shaping up as a World Series contender this year, but for many years down the road. Don't be surprised if the Jays are holding a parade on Yonge Street this fall.

Chris O'Leary

Part of the magic of the 14 000-game monstrosity that is the MLB season is that you can start out as a bottom-feeder and still salvage your season. Say, for example, after a 45-game losing streak over a brutal two-and-a-half week stretch in May, a team can theoretically turn it around with some improved play in the 156 games they have in June and July; a week-long slide can be alleviated by a shining performance in a Saturday quadruple-header; a pitcher can get hot, cold, then hot again in the course of a week.

With that in mind, my pick to be writing their names in the history books come October goes to the lowly Kansas City Royals.

Sure, the Royals had the worst record in baseball in 2005 at 56-106, but like I said, anything's possible in MLB. Maybe David DeJesus, after three years of obscurity in Kansas City, will use 2006 as his breakout year. DeJesus undoubtedly worked on the intangibles of his game in MLB's three-week-long off-season, and is poised to crack the double-digit mark in home runs this season as he comes so close in 2004, when he hit a whopping nine balls over the fence. DeJesus is the saviour; Royals in '06.

Paul Owen

Maybe you haven't heard, but the Washington Nationals are George W Bush's favourite team. And that guy knows baseball. He once owned the Texas Rangers. He even wanted to become commissioner of baseball, before Bud Selig got the job. The Nationals themselves have a deep, talented pitching staff, perfect for one of the largest fields in MLB. Moreover, they've added Alfonso Soriano to an offensive unit already loaded with Jose Guillen, Nick Johnson and Jose Vidro. The Nationals may not win their division—that spot's reserved for the Atlanta Braves—but they don't need to. The '04 Red Sox, '03 Marlins and '02 Angels didn't win their respective divisions either. Good pitching, solid defence and improved hitting should put the Nationals on top of the heap. And if it doesn't, good ol' Dubsy can just make a law saying that the Nationals win, or the government nukes Turner Field, or something. That's how he rolls. Don't mess with Texas.

If overweight men under the guise of being athletes for their ability to swing chunks of wood tell us anything, it's that it's time for another World's Strongest Man contest, or that a new Major League Baseball season is upon us. With hopes of baseball fans across the country resting heavily on the revamped Toronto Jays, a number of teams have reshaped themselves in an effort to extend their season well into the fall. Here's how the Gateway's sports staff sees the 2006 season unfolding.

Ross Prusakowski

Sure, for some, the return of baseball may lead to groans and suicide attempts, as the prospect of a never-ending schedule of baseball games gets set to clog our TV screens. However, the much-abused fans of the Chicago Cubs should take heart, because this year the World Series is theirs for the taking.

Granted, this prediction seems a little bit bizarre since the Cubs haven't won a series in nearly a century, have a pitching staff that's been in the repair shop more times than my mom's Intrepid, and have a history of finding new and bizarre ways of losing. However, the signs are all there that it's the Cubs' turn to finally exorcise the Billy Goat Curse. Not only have the Conservatives formed a federal government in Canada and the Calgary Flames and New York Rangers returned to respectable status in the NHL, but Janet Gertz recently even put down money on the Cubs to win.

Add to that the fact that the Cubs' fellow members of the futile franchise club, the Boston Red Sox and Chicago White Sox, managed to end their respective World Series droughts in the last two years and everything points to it being the Cubs' year. If they don't win, though, maybe they should change their name to the Chicago Red Sox With White Stripes On Them, since Sox seem to find a lot of success in the World Series lately.

Ben Carter

Major League Baseball's off-season, for the first time in years, was marked by an abundance of common sense. The majority of teams spent within their means on solid, dependable players, and kept the contracts to a reasonable dollar level. Even the Yankees, a team for whom common sense went out the window years ago, made solid moves with the World Series in mind. Despite their signing of Johnny Damon, the problem that plagued the Yankees last season, a rapidly aging pitching staff, will come back to haunt them in the playoffs. The Jays made one of the biggest splashes this season, increasing their payroll and signing several top free agents in the hopes of finally contending once again.

Keeping with baseball's recent history of annually having a new champion, the 2006 World Series champions will be the Oakland Athletics. The A's have finally learned that Billy Beane's Moneyball might keep you near the top of the standings, but it's pragmatic and complex decision making that'll win you games in October. The addition of pitcher Estaban Loaiza ensures that Oakland finally has the rotation that a World Series-winning ballclub needs.

Nick Frost

I was ever-so-tempted and oh-so-close to saying that the Toronto Jays would win the World Series this year—but we all know it won't happen. This year, however, should see them make some huge strides. And when they finally do make it to the big dance, it will be interesting what kind of impact the newly acquired Troy Glaus and Bengie Molina—both having World Series experience from the Angels' win in 2002—will have on a potential playoff run.

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## EMPLOYMENT-FULL TIME

MAYFAIR GOLF & CC JOB FAIR. Sat and Sun, 25 and 26 March, from 10am-2pm. 50+ positions. [www.mayfair.ca](http://www.mayfair.ca). Springhill Community Preschool Society seeks full-time teacher to deliver

programming to 2-5-year-old children. Minimum education requirements are early Childhood Level III. Bachelors of Education or higher qualifications are welcome to apply. Must possess current first aid certification including child CPR and must supply a current security check including vulnerable sectors. Please submit resumé including proof of education, first aid and security check to Attention: Kim Jain, Personnel Coordinator Springhill Community Preschool, 7730-106 St, Edmonton, Alberta, T6E 4W3. Big Al's Aquarium Services is seeking applicants for ft, pt, and cashier. Apply in store with resumé. 351-9957.

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Night in Canada on 6-8:30pm, Thursday 29 March, 2006. Student Groups encourage us for an evening of Scrabble or your favourite board game. Bring your own board or use ours provided. \$2 admission or \$1 with donation to Campus Food Bank to cover costs of snacks and drinks. Students for Literacy at the U of A is a member of Frontier College, a national organization that believes in literacy as a fundamental right and hopes to ensure that all Canadians have access to learning and development. Scrabble Night in Canada hopes to raise awareness of the issue of literacy and the goals of Frontier College. For more information, please contact Caroline Xu at 492-0622.

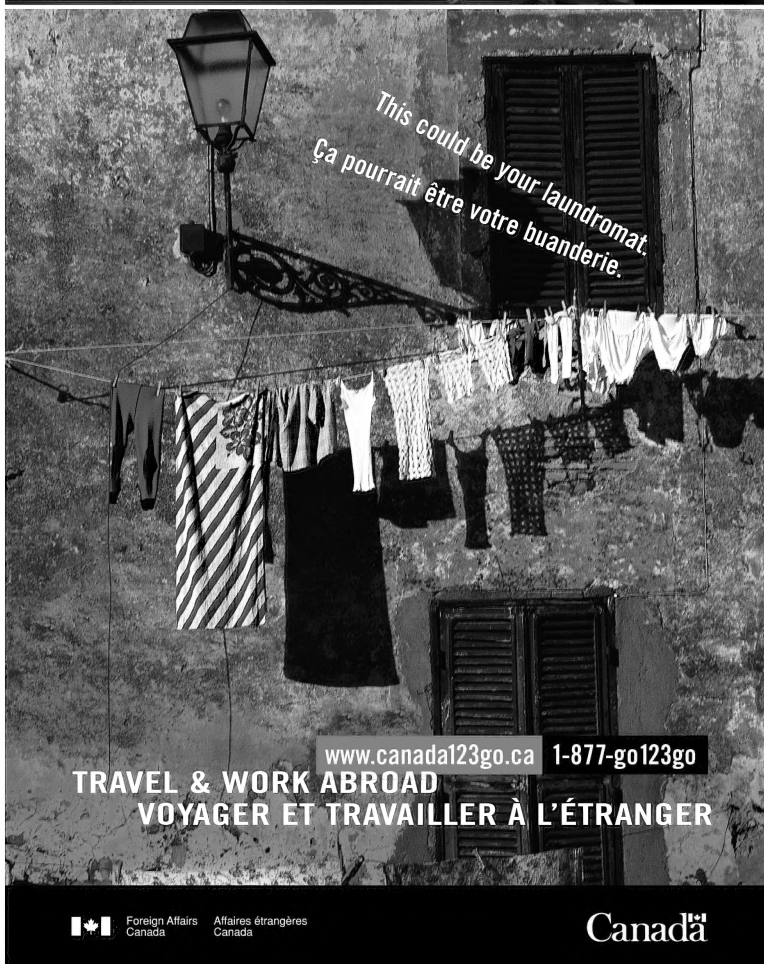
Pharmacology Students' Association

presents Pharmacology Industry Information Night on Thursday 9 March from 4-6pm in Telus Center (across the street from Enbridge). The purpose of this event is to expose science students to the pharmacology industry. There will be representatives from various pharmacology fields such as toxicology, pharmaceuticals, and pharmacological research. These representatives will be doing presentations and will be answering any questions that students may have. Industry night will be a good chance for students to find out what type of careers a pharmacology degree can offer to them. For students that are undecided in their majors, industry night will be a good chance for you to see if pharmacology is a possible route to take. This event is open to all students. Any questions, please e-mail [prncol@ualberta.ca](mailto:prncol@ualberta.ca) For more information, please contact (780) 554-8732.

Medical Students for Mental Health

Awareness (MSMHA) presents MSMHA Seminar Series: Depression on Thurs 16 March, 12-1pm in MSB 6-28. This will be a first hand account of dealing with the pressures of school while suffering from depression. This lunch hour talk will help you understand the way depressed people are forced to think, as well as ways you can help. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, please contact [msmha@ualberta.ca](mailto:msmha@ualberta.ca) or visit <http://www.localcalendar.com/public/medstudent> where you can post details on our upcoming Mental Health Awareness Week.

EO73 is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. EO73 does not publish events that are on-going or not open to the public. We only accept free events. The Gateway reserves all right to edit all entries for length and clarity. All submissions must be made online. To place an entry in EO73, please go to [www.gatewayualberta.ca/hok](http://www.gatewayualberta.ca/hok).

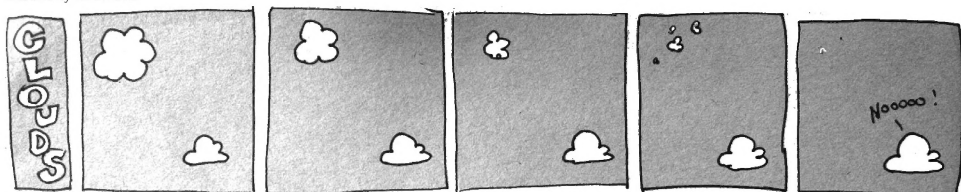





## LOGIC PUZZLE by Scott C Bourgeois



## CLOUDS by Darren Zenko



## DOLLY by Mike Snider



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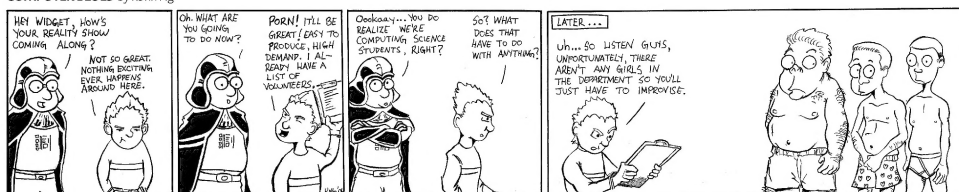
**Edmonton Information Session:**

Thursday, March 9

For location information and to register:

**[www.sfubusiness.ca/frminfo](http://www.sfubusiness.ca/frminfo)**

## COMPUTER BLUES by Kevin Ng



## DON SUAN by Bill Benson



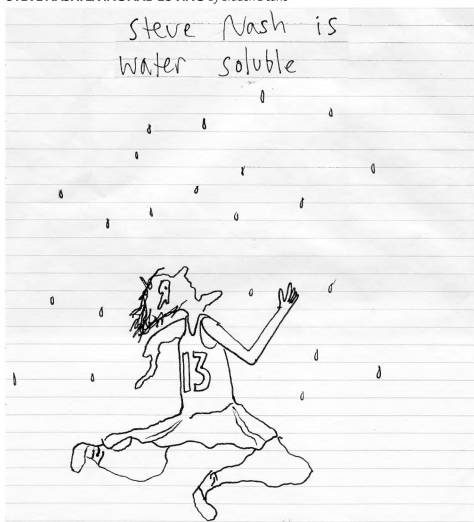
## PICKLE FRENZY by Mike Kendrick



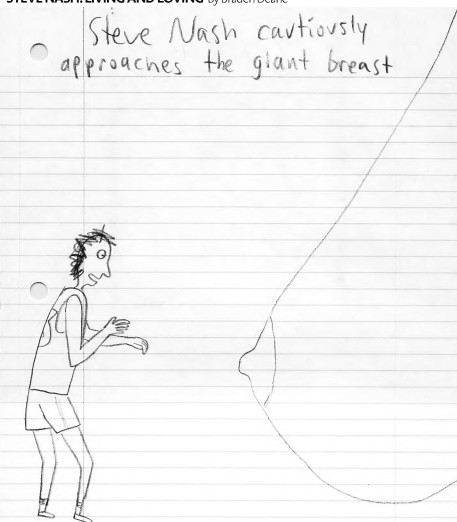
## F-RAY by Fraser Tingle



## STEVE NASH: LIVING AND LOVING by Braden Deane



## STEVE NASH: LIVING AND LOVING by Braden Deane



# WHO IS *the* ANTICHRIST

*You won't hear this  
anywhere else.*

*Some say he's coming in the future,  
others say he appeared long ago,  
but the Bible indicates he's alive today!*

*Controversial ? Maybe.  
Cool to find out ? Absolutely.*

*The hottest topic to hit  
campus since religion  
became 'taboo'*

*You may think it's irrelevant,  
but it was important enough  
to be put in the Bible.*

*Take a look at the controversy that propels  
Jesus face-to-face against His most ruthless adversary.*

*You will find it quite interesting what the Bible says.*

*This message will prove helpful to Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists,  
Jews, unreligious people and ESPECIALLY CHRISTIANS.*

***Friday, March 10th, 7:30pm @ Telus Centre***  
*no admission fee*